

The Middlebury Campus

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Use, Abuse and the New Pharmaceutical Reality

By Kyle Finck

Emma '14 first snorted Adderall halfway through sophomore year.

A friend took the orange 20-milligram (mg) pill and crushed it into a light powder with the bottom of a mug, before guiding the mass into four equal lines with a credit card and instructing Emma to get a tampon. She removed the applicator and blew her first line, beginning a recreational use that continues to this day.

"It was almost euphoric, it felt like I could do anything," she said. "But the next morning, I had the worst hangover I've ever had in my life."

LIVING IN THE
ADDERALL
GENERATION
PART 1 of 2

More than two years later, Adderall has become a constant companion to Emma's academic and social life.

"Recreationally, I wish never tried it in the first place. Freshman year and the beginning of sophomore year before I tried it, I really liked just being drunk, and that was fine with me. Now in my friend group, that's never enough. We can't just all hang out and drink and go out. Someone always wants to do Adderall to take it to the next level."

Emma's story is one of an increasing number that point to a new reality across colleges and universities nationwide, as a wave of high-performing and highly stimulated students strive for top grades and are willing to do

whatever it takes to get there.

Over the past 13 months, the Campus has followed numerous current and former students — all of whom requested anonymity and were given pseudonyms and, for some, different genders for legal and social reasons — as they grappled balancing their relationships with the powerful psychostimulant with academic, social and societal expectations. The Campus also interviewed experts on the frontlines, from psychologists prescribing the drug to neuroscientists studying their effects on the brain.

Data on psychostimulant use at the College is hard to come by. In a student-led study last spring, 16 percent of Middlebury students who responded to the anonymous survey reported illegally using the drug, slightly above the 5 to 12 percent estimated nationally. Of that percentage,

only 4 percent reported having prescriptions. While the data is scarce, the stories of use and abuse paint a complicated picture, in which the line between prescribed use and illicit self-medication is murky at best and farcical at worst.

Whether Adderall is a life-changing medicine or an unfair performance enhancer depends on whom you talk to. What is clear is that we are now living in the Adderall Generation, a reality that is rarely talked about but apparent just below the surface. You may not have a prescription or snort the drugs on weekends, but psychostimulants are here to stay, and they have the potential to affect nearly every aspect of life at the College.

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MYTHEA VIBACH

8,196 Apply to Class of 2018

By Mitch Perry

On March 21, the College mailed letters of acceptance to 1,422 prospective students representing all 50 states and 82 different countries in the hope that 575 of these students will enroll next fall. The College shrunk its target class size due to yield for the class of 2017 that was greater than anticipated and therefore offered admission to 14 percent of its regular decision applicants and just 17.3 percent of overall applicants — lower than last year's 19 percent overall acceptance rate.

"It is the most selective class ever," said Dean of Admissions Greg Buckles. "They have been subject to the highest degree of scrutiny that any class ever has." Despite a 10 percent drop in received applications (a total of 8,196), Buckles says that in terms of academic rating — the seven point scale used by the admissions office to evaluate academic capability — the admitted class is the highest he has seen at Middlebury College.

The number of admitted early decision students is consistent with last year's total, and early decision students comprise 53 percent of the class, contributing to a low regular-decision acceptance rate. Buckles describes this early decision method as "a little controversial" but says that Admissions did not want to pass

over excellent early decision applicants just to keep the percentage of the class that applied early decision below 50.

The admitted class for 2018 hails from across the country, with the most admitted students coming from California. Other pipeline states include New York, Connecticut, Massachusetts and Illinois. The class also includes students from 82 different countries. Buckles attributed this diversity to Admissions' goal of, "creating a community that reflects the best of the rest of the world."

Within the accepted class, 33.7 percent of the students identify as students of color and 14.5 percent identify as the first in their family to attend college.

The first generation category is very important for Buckles and his team as they strive to create a diverse student body.

"First generation access cuts across a lot of boundaries," he said. "It will be inclusive of socioeconomic, racial, cultural and religious diversity."

The College plans to award \$9.6 million in need-based financial aid. Although the class size is smaller, the Admissions Office tried to maintain its numbers for students of color and first generation students. According to Buckles, this means that while the budget for financial aid might not be higher than last year's, the percentage of students on financial aid could be.

SEE CLASS, PAGE 3

Nyad to Speak at Commencement

By Emily Singer

The College has announced that Diana Nyad will deliver the 2014 commencement address on Sunday, May 25. At the age of 64, Nyad made history last year when she became the first person to swim the 110-mile stretch between Havana, Cuba and Key West, FL without the protection of a shark cage.

Nyad will also receive an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree from the College.

"Diana Nyad is a bold and fearless athlete whose determination is truly inspiring," President of the College Ronald D. Liebowitz said in a press release. "Her mental strength and her belief in never giving up on her goals make her a role model for others who wish to pursue their dreams, no matter how daunting."

Nyad is a prolific long-distance swimmer, having swam around the island of Manhattan in under eight hours at age 26. She also set the world record for both men's and women's distance swimming by traversing the 102 miles between North Bimini Island, Bahamas and Juno Beach, Florida in just 27.5 hours.

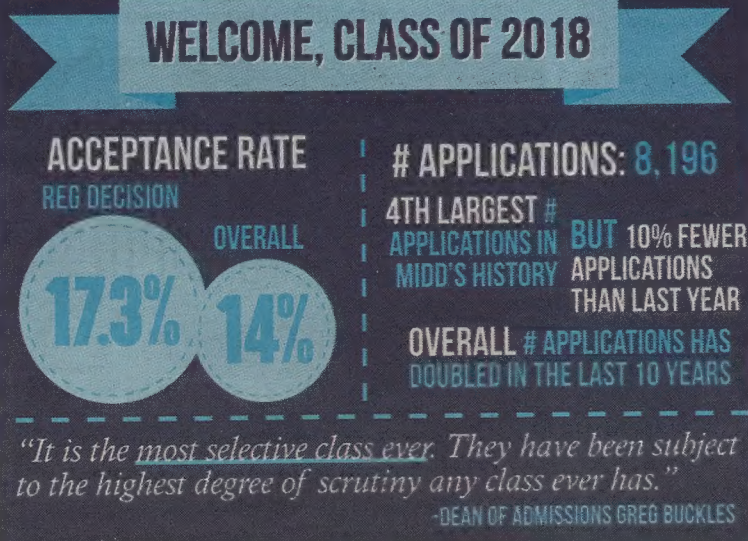
In the 1980s, Nyad took a hiatus from swimming and worked in broadcast journalism, serving as senior correspondent for Fox Sports News and hosting her own

show on CNBC. She has published two books about her long-distance swimming career, has written for the New York Times, Newsweek magazine and NPR's "All Things Considered." More recently, Nyad was named to National Geographic magazine's 2014 "Adventurers of the Year" list and competed on Dancing with the Stars.

The College will also be honoring five other men and women with honorary degrees: former Board of Trustees Vice Chair and former executive of State Street Corporation William H. Kieffer III '64, Grammy-award winning singer and social justice advocate Angelique Kidjo, acclaimed underwater explorer Carl Douglas '88, former President Emeritus of Yale University Richard Levin and retired chairman and CEO of Colgate-Palmolive Reuben Mark '60.

Kieffer has served as emeritus trustee since 2008, and has held various volunteer leadership positions at the College over the past 50 years. He has served as vice chair of the Board of Trustees and led the Monterey Institute of International Studies (MIIS) Board of Governors for nine years. Kieffer is currently co-chair of the 2015 Middlebury Language Schools Centennial Celebration. He will receive a Doctor of Humane Letters degree.

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College to Award Six Honorary Degrees

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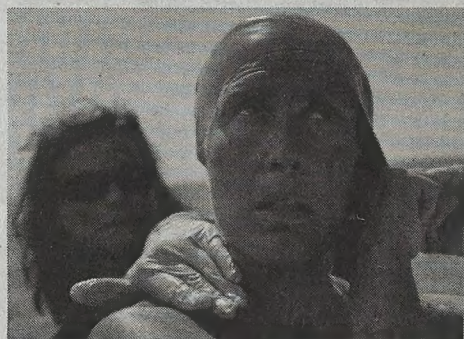
Kidjo's blend of Afropop, Congolese rumba, jazz, rhythm and blues, gospel and Latin music earned her the Grammy award for Best Contemporary World Music in 2007. She is a native of Benin and has worked as a UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador since 2002. Kidjo also performed at the College in the fall. She will be receiving an honorary Doctor of Arts degree.

Douglas, a recipient of a Doctor of Letters, founded Deep Sea Productions, a publishing and documentary film company that has chronicled the discovery of over 100 underwater ruins. Douglas also serves as chairman of Sweden's largest private marine survey company.

Levin will also receive a Doctor of Letters. During his time as President Emeritus at Yale from 1993-2013, he launched the Yale Center for the Study of Globalization and collaborated with the National University of Singapore to found the first liberal arts college in Asia.

Mark, who will be receiving a Doctor of Laws, was the longest-serving leader in Colgate-Palmolive's history as a public company. He served on the College's Board of Trustees from 1985 to 1994 and has been an avid proponent of faculty scholarship, teaching and development.

The 2014 Middlebury College commencement ceremony will be held on the lawn behind Voter beginning at 10 a.m. on Sunday, May 25.



Diana Nyad will address the class of 2014 on Sunday, May 25.

MCAB's WHAT'S HAPPENING AT MIDDLEBURY?

Q&A Atwater Dinner

Dig into pork ribs and hush puppies at the Q&A-hosted Southern Comfort dinner. Open to the first 100 students!

WEDNESDAY AT 6 P.M.

Yoga with Sayre

Unwind after a long week with some downward dog in Proctor Basement.

FRIDAY AT 1:30 P.M.

Zumba

Take a study break to dancercise in McCullough Social Space.

SUNDAY AT 4 P.M.

Spring Formal

Take it back to the Roaring Twenties at the Great Gatsby-themed semi-formal. A night of eclectic music starts off with performances by Will Cuneo and Icarus & The Wax Wings, D. Scott and Milk Chocolate and DJ Norris. Beer and wine for those 21+ with 2 forms of ID!

SATURDAY AT 9:30 P.M.

Old Chapel Restructures Roles

By Eliza Teach

Following the recent restructuring of the Board of Trustees, July 1 will mark a wide-sweeping change in faculty governance. These changes come at a pivotal transition point for the College, as the new President will assume his position in 2015.

President Ronald D. Liebowitz wrote in an all school email, "The transitional nature of the amended responsibilities is intended to provide continuity for the College's new leader, and also to allow for important coordination with the Board and its new committee and governance structures."

The Board of Trustees is now organized into three boards of overseers. There is a one board of overseers for the College as well as two different boards for its affiliate programs.

Shirley Collado, Dean of the College, will also become the Vice President for Student Affairs. Steve Trombulak, Professor of Biology and Environmental Studies, will take on the role of Director of Sciences. Stephen Snyder, Professor of Japanese studies, will become the first ever Dean of the Language Schools.

Liebowitz wrote in his email, "[Snyder's] new position reflects the growth of our language schools, the likely increased collaborations between the Schools and other parts of Middlebury, and the cur-

rent leave taken by Associate Vice President Aline Germain-Rutherford to serve as Chief Learning Officer at Middlebury Interactive Languages."

Andi Lloyd, the current Dean of the Faculty, will assume the newly created role of Senior Administrative Officer for the College Board of Overseers. She will also take on the role of Vice President for Academic Affairs.

"I will work with the chair and vice-chair of the College Board of Overseers to set the agenda for the year and provide materials for meetings," Lloyd said. "Probably the best way to think about it is that I am a liaison to the Trustees serving on the College Board of Overseers."

Tim Spears, the current Vice President for Academic Affairs, will become the Vice President for Academic Development. Spears sees his new role as bringing the needs of initiatives that might be bubbling up between faculty as well as different new and already existing programs to the college advancement and grant offices.

"It makes sense, I think, from the President's perspective to have an administrator who is familiar with the academic program to work with his office, College Advancement, the academic administration and the faculty to develop new initiatives," Spears said.

Suzanne Gurland, currently an Associate Professor of Psychology, will succeed

Bob Cluss as the Dean of the Curriculum. Gurland has an extensive background that will prepare her well for this new position.

"One of the first committees I was ever on when I came to Middlebury was the curriculum committee," Gurland said. "And at that time Bob Cluss was the chair of the committee, so I feel that I learned from him and got a broad perspective on the College curriculum from that experience."

Gurland has also served on the Educational Affairs Committee and the Governance Working Group.

"Serving on the educational affairs committee has given me a broad view of the college and an appreciation for the similarities and differences among departments and programs and how things work in various parts of the curriculum," Gurland said.

All of the new roles will have a year to adjust under the leadership of Liebowitz before the new President assumes his position in 2015.

"The administrative transitions were timed so that President Liebowitz will still be in office when the changes occur," Lloyd said. "This gives all of us a year to get up to speed on both the new positions and the new governance structure, so when the new president comes in we should all be comfortable in our new roles."

SRI Panel Discusses Fossil Fuels

By Emily Singer

On Monday, April 7, the College hosted its third panel on the subject of Socially Responsible Investing and the College's endowment in the past 15 months.

Six investment experts were invited to speak on how fossil fuel investments are evaluated and how institutions such as the College can best incorporate Environmental-Social-Governance (ESG) consciousness into their investment process.

Vice President of Advisor Markets at Pax World Tom Gainey, Managing Director and Director of ESG Research and Shareholder Engagement at Boston Common Asset Management Steven Heim, Real Assets Director at Investure Jon Hill, Partner and Portfolio Manager at Trillium Asset Management Stephanie Leighton, Senior Vice President of Essex Investment Management William Page and Proprietary Trading and Risk Management Team member at Mariner Investment Group Akila Prabhakar served on the panel. The panelists hail from different genres of work, ranging from advising to investing at both large and small firms or hedge funds.

The panel came on the heels of the College's announcement that, as of February 28, a \$25 million portion of the endowment will go toward investments that generate social, environmental and economic value and are in keeping with good ESG practices. The \$25 million represents approximately three percent of the College's total endowment.

Additionally, the College has placed \$150,000 of its endowment under the management of the Research and Investment and Social Equity (RISE) group, a division of the Socially Responsible Investment Club (SRI). RISE will be using the funds to invest in companies that meet particular ESG standards. The group will present a report on the status of the fund to the Investment Committee of the Board of Trustees each year. On April 7, RISE announced its first trades using the endowment funds.

The panelists began by introducing themselves and explaining their work in socially responsible investing, and transitioned into a discussion amongst themselves about working directly with companies to improve ESG-related practices and about the complexity of clean energy investments.

The panelists agreed that, particularly as climate change has moved to the forefront of political dialogue in recent years, companies have become more eager to address workplace sustainability practices

and engagement between investors and companies has become much easier.

Heim noted that sustainability reports have proven to be advantageous not only with regard to the relationship between companies and managers or investors, but also between companies and employees, for employees are often more willing to work for a company that promotes transparency and boasts strong ESG practices.

The panelists noted that even clean energy investments, however, are not perfect. The mining of rare earth minerals, which are found in many phone and computer batteries, as well as solar panels and wind turbines, is an expensive and environmentally invasive process.

Throughout the evening, Hill emphasized Investure's long-term outlook on investments. He argued that many of the company's clients have been around for centuries and will be around for centuries more, and so slower, steadier and more promising investments are what they look for.

Adrian Leong '16 found Investure's stance to be problematic, however.

"It was surprising for me to hear ... that they [Investure] think they're currently investing with a view of the long term," Leong wrote in an email. "As long as they are investing in the fossil fuel industry, they are not doing that."

He alluded to United Nations Rapporteur Olivier De Schutter's warning of a broken food system, prolonged poverty and increased risk of violent conflicts if current emission trends continue.

"Maybe we are still making money now,

but sooner than we think, the consequences of our short-sighted vision and reluctance to lead will imperil the fundamental conditions that make life in a organized society possible," he said.

The panelists emphasized that there is no right way to go about divesting, or any right alternative to fossil fuel investments. Leighton suggested that those involved in the divestment movement at the College speak to students at other colleges—particularly those that are managed by Investure—to find allies and press money managers to make changes.

"I was pleased that all of the panelists addressed fossil fuel divestment," Greta Neubauer '14.5 wrote in an email. "The panelists made clear [during the panel and in conversations afterward] that Middlebury could divest if the College considered it to be a priority," noting that she felt a "sense of inevitability" rooted in the increasing number of socially responsible options for investment due to the worsening climate crisis.

Jeannie Bartlett '15, too, remains optimistic about the feasibility of divestment in the College's future.

"In talking with a couple of the panelists afterward, they said they think Investure could create a separately managed fund that was fossil fuel free but otherwise diversified," Bartlett wrote in an email. "We would just have to ask them for it, which so far Patrick Norton and the trustees have been unwilling to do." She added that in giving a portion of the endowment to RISE, "we have already seen that they can create a separate fund."



MICHAEL O'HARA

Jon Hill of Investure speaks to students and faculty at the SRI panel on April 7.

Class of 2018 Boasts 14.5% First Gen. Students

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"We have many more kids with aid packages out there than we have the budget for," Buckles said. "But, we look year to year and have a pretty good idea of where we will end up."

Recruited student-athletes make up 11.5 percent of the admitted class. Due to the smaller pool of admitted students, Buckles said, this year Admissions was more "focused" with coaches about the number of recruits they could bring in.

The Admissions Office has also started utilizing a new feature that makes it easier for faculty in the arts departments to evaluate work submitted by prospective students to afford students with exceptional artistic ability to be recognized and lend greater heft to their application.

Buckles said the Admissions Office is as transparent about the admissions process as possible. The Admissions Office staff rates applicants on academics, personal qualities and extra-curricular activities, and then assigns the applicant an overall rating. This system allows the staff to attain a holistic view of the stu-

dent.

Other factors are useful in determining whether Middlebury is a good fit for an applicant – "self-awareness" and "resiliency" are two qualities that Buckles and his team have found are important to increasing the likelihood of a student having a positive Middlebury experience. Buckles explained that these qualities allow students to take advantage of what is offered at Middlebury and, additionally, to give back.

"That creates a better roommate, a better classmate, and a better community," he said.

With every graduating class, the Admissions Office compares the academic rating they gave students with students' actual performance while at Middlebury. Buckles said that he has found that the best indicator of success at Middlebury is consistently the academic rating.

Students have until May 1 to accept their spot in the Class of 2018. Once the Admissions Office is able to process acceptances, the composition of the enrolled class will be available.



RACHEL FRANK

Members of the track team staff the BiHall Kiosk as part of a fundraising effort.

Kiosk Opens in BiHall

By Ellie Reinhardt

Coffee and snacks are now available for the science buffs on campus thanks to the grand opening of a café kiosk in Bicentennial Hall on Monday, March 31.

The installation of the café was prompted after a WetheMiddKids petition received 247 votes and won the attention of the Student Government Association (SGA). "[Chief of Staff] Danny Zhang '15 discovered that efforts to put a café in BiHall had been begun but were stalled" SGA President Rachel Liddell '15 said. "We thought that a café in BiHall would be amazing, so we began to pursue it."

The SGA Senate voted unanimously to support the petition and created a resolution called S.C.I.E.N.C.E (Supporting Cafés In Environments of New Community Enhancement).

The SGA worked with General Manager of Retail Food Operations David Cannistra and Special Assistant to the President David Donahue to bring the petition to life. President of the College Ronald D. Liebowitz approved the movement to go forward with the project about three weeks ago.

Efforts to implement a café in BiHall go as far back as 2006, according to Cannistra. The most recent attempt was last year but the plans were "a little too ambitious for the space" according to him.

Because of past efforts though, the decision to move forward with the café was easy for the administration.

"[The café] seems like it's something that's been needed on campus," Cannistra said.

The café, located across from Armstrong Library, includes a kiosk of coffee and small snacks with in addition to more substantial food such as sushi from Sushi with Gusto.

"We really just want to get up and going with this so I think it's just going to stay [a kiosk]," Cannistra said. "[BiHall] is such a beautiful space. They don't want to do anything to permanently change the place."

The café will be run in part by student

organizations. For their help, the organizations will receive a portion of the profits made while they work. Both GlobeMed and the Track and Field team have already gotten involved with working at the café. Cannistra said that the program will work similarly to that of the Grille's delivery service, which has been very successful.

According to Co-President of GlobeMed Olivia Wold '14, the organization received 25 percent of the proceeds made while they worked. She acknowledged that it offers clubs an opportunity to fundraise without all the planning and time commitment that often goes into a fundraising event. "The College does a great job both promoting new ideas for fundraisers, like this one, and also providing guidance when we have our own ideas," she said.

The café, open from 8 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. then 6:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. On Mondays through Fridays, Liddell speculated, they "will provide sustenance and caffeine to hard-working people. Students and faculty alike have communicated their desire for such a place for some time."

"The café will allow [students] to relax and have a cup of coffee and enjoy themselves," Cannistra said. "It's more of a service that we set up for the students than a money making opportunity."

According to Cannistra, the café has already been a success.

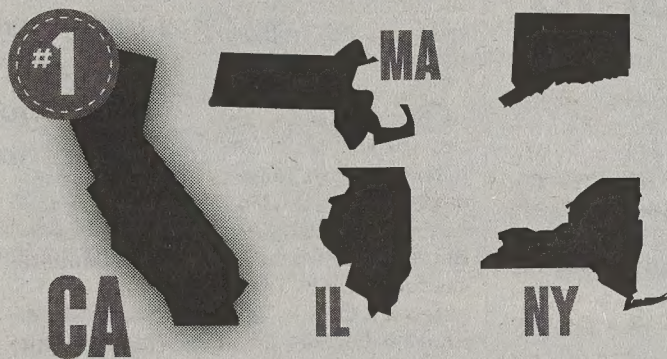
"The first week went very well as we served 584 customers, and it was well received by faculty, staff and students alike," he said.

Along with the café in BiHall, the Rehearsals Café in the lower lobby of the Mahaney Center for the Arts re-opened on April 1 for the rest of the spring semester.

"This started because [President Liebowitz] wanted a sense of community ... where people could meet and have a cup of coffee and hang out. I think that was the driving factor. [President Liebowitz] was looking for a sense of community, as far as the CFA as well."

WELCOME, CLASS OF 2018

TOP 5 MOST REPRESENTED STATES:



(ALL 50 STATES, DC AND PUERTO RICO REPRESENTED)

STUDENTS WHO APPLY TO MIDD ALSO APPLY TO:

DARTMOUTH

AMHERST

WILLIAMS

BOWDOIN

BROWN

82
COUNTRIES

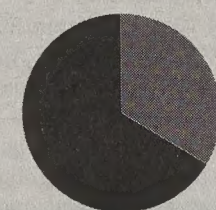
PLANNED FINANCIAL AID:
\$9,600,000

ADMITTED

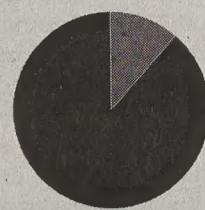
1,422

TARGET CLASS SIZE

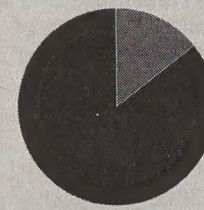
575



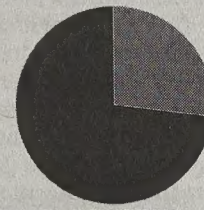
33.7% STUDENTS OF COLOR



11.5% RECRUITED ATHLETES



14.5% FIRST GENERATION



27% APPROXIMATE % STUDENT ATHLETES

What's going on this weekend at...



The Milk Chocolate Project

FRIDAY 9:00-11:00PM

The Milk Chocolate Project is a soul and R&B cover band with smooth vocals and an infectious groove. Come hear some blues and your favorite Motown hits!

Dayve Hockett

SATURDAY 8:00-10:00PM

Dayve Hockett's repertoire spans from Zappa to the Beatles and from Sting to Tommy Emmanuel, as well as his own original music on classical, steel string, and electric guitars.

Blues Jam

NEXT WEDNESDAY (16TH)

8:00-10:00PM

Join us every 3rd Wednesday for Blues Jam. Dennis Willmott from Left Eye Jump will provide lead guitar, bass, and drums and these guys will back you up or take a break and let you play. All musicians and blues fans are welcome! Everyone will get a chance to play.

Pub Night

SATURDAY 9:00-11:00PM

Join Will Cuneo's band "Icarus and the Waxwings" on Pub Night this weekend. Alcohol will be served for those 21+ with two forms of ID.

Karaoke

FRIDAY 11:30-2:00AM

Join us for a night of special talent and fun at Late Night Karaoke.

\$800k Grant Awarded for Digital Scholarship

By Allie Cohen

Digital scholarship and research has become crucial to a liberal arts education and the College has started to take significant steps to implement it more fully. The College recently received an \$800,000 grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation for a project entitled "Galvanizing Digital Liberal Arts at Middlebury."

The grant was proposed by a group of faculty and staff including Professor Tim Spears, vice president for academic affairs, along with Professor of Film and Media Culture and American Studies Jason Mittell, Professor of Geography Anne Knowles, Dean for Faculty Development and Research and Director of the Center for Teaching, Learning, and Research (CTLR) Jim Ralph, Dean of Library and Information Services and Chief Information Officer Michael Roy, and Director of Collections, Archives, and Digital Scholarship Rebekah Irwin.

"We want to think about how technology is being used on our campus," Spears said. "We're paying particular attention to the Davis Family Library and we want to make a space that is literally more visible [as a place for technological innovation and usage]."

Davis Family Library will be the center of the project's work in hopes that the project will reach many different people on campus. In addition, various departments will benefit greatly from the grant.

"[The Film and Media Culture department] is fully invested in the use of digital technologies in their teaching and research," Spears said.

Mittell also believes the Film and Media Culture department, as well as others, will take their status as leaders among liberal arts colleges and improve even more with the help of the grant.

"The Geography department is a leader amongst liberal arts colleges for using GIS ... What's unique about our program here is that [it] is really interdisciplinary [because] we have people who are social scientists and people who are humanists," Mittell said.

Geography is another department that will be able to use the grant to expand its already extensive digital simulations and mapping systems.

In addition to bolstering the Davis Family Library and various departments, the grant will allow for other important projects to take shape. One such project will implement a Digital Faculty Fellows program and a Digital Research Assistants program for students.

These programs will encourage faculty to do research in different areas as well as provide collaborative opportunities for students with their professors. There will also be four "innovation hubs" created as part of the project. These include geospatial visualization, video and audio production, digitization of special collections, and multimedia art.

The group who proposed the project was passionate about incorporating digital humanities because they are such a rapidly growing field in the world of liberal arts education.

"Everyone had a piece in the development of the ideas for the grant and the writing of it but [the office of Corporate and Foundation Relations] pulled the proposal together and sent it off to the Mellon Foundation... with the president's signature. Really, a great team effort, all the way around," Spears said.

"What can we learn about history that digital maps can teach us that we can't otherwise know just by using more traditional research methods? How can we communicate to people using tools like video and audio on a website that's different from the written word? What types of analysis of culture can emerge by using computational methods?"

Professor Mittell posed these questions as a way of thinking about the possibilities of digital humanities. He and the other professors involved in proposing the grant have successfully made this field of study an important presence at the College.

23 Celebrate 25 Years at College

By Vivian Guo

This year 23 faculty and staff members were inducted into the College's 25 Year Club recognizing those who have contributed 25 years worth of service to the community. This not only includes professors, but also the staff that are responsible for administrative affairs and the welfare of the students.

"All the members of the 25 Year Club are invited back for a reception in May," said Thomas Corbin, one of this year's inductees who works in the Assistant Treasurer's Office. "It's kind of a gathering of the history of the college."

The reception will be held this year on May 29 in the McCullough Social Space. At the gathering, President of the College Ronald D. Liebowitz will share some of the College's history, while personally congratulating and taking pictures with the inductees, who receive a pin that officially marks them as exceptional members of the College community.

When asked what about their posi-

tions and what has made such a long commitment worth it, the professors unanimously answered the students.

"It's the students. You guys make all the difference in our lives," said Christian A. Johnson Professor and Chair of the Department of the History of Art and

Architecture Cynthia Packert.

As Chair, she has a crucial role in hiring and reviewing contracts and tenure tracks for the department.

CYNTHIA PACKERT

CHRISTIAN A. JOHNSON PROFESSOR AND CHAIR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY OF ART AND ARCHITECTURE

"When you walk into a classroom of smart, really engaged students... it feels like you have to put your best self forward because it's essential to the whole learning dynamic," she said.

Thomas Manley, a Visiting Assistant Professor of Geology, praised the work that students have completed throughout the years.

"The one really great thing is that the oceanography course that we teach here is one where students actively participate in very important research for the Lake," he said.

"... it feels like you have to put your best self forward because it's essential to the whole learning dynamic."

Gensler to Explore Queer Studies

By Philip Bohlman

The sixth annual Gensler Symposium will take place from April 14 through April 18 and will include a student-led discussion, a poetry workshop, and lectures by visiting scholars. Entitled "Sexual Straight-jacket & Queer Escapes," it will highlight the relevance of queer studies and queer scholarship in a liberal arts environment.

The Gensler Family Symposium on Feminism in a Global Context was established in 2008 by alumna Drue Cortell Gensler '57. The annual conference focuses on transnational feminist issues in the new millennium. Previous Gensler events have analyzed the Afghanistan and Iraq wars, neoliberal capitalist formations, citizenship, language and body image through a feminist lens.

"This year's theme is meant to highlight the relationship between feminist and queer studies in part because the Queer Studies House has been at Middlebury for over five years now and we wanted to mark

that rather significant achievement," said Associate Professor of Sociology, Gender, Sexuality and Feminist Studies Laurie Essig.

The weeklong symposium will begin with MiddQUEER, a student-led discussion about sexual/gender identity and sexuality at Middlebury.

Students will have the unique opportunity to engage in a poetry workshop with Sister Outsider, a duo of acclaimed female slam poets Denice Frohman and Dominique Christina. Their poetry is concerned with the intersections of gender, sexuality, race and culture. The workshop will be followed with a performance by Sister Outsider and student poets.

The symposium will include two outside speakers. Dr. Nikki Young of Bucknell University will give a talk titled "I am NOT that Hungry: Creative Resistance, Black Queers, and Family." Dr. Young focuses on the role of capitalism in establishing a value system that oppresses black queers and their ef-

forts of creative resistance.

Dr. Suzanna Walters of Northeastern University will give the symposium's second lecture and will discuss the difference between tolerance, acceptance, and universal civil rights.

"Both of these scholars combine queer theory and feminist scholarship to provide us with deeper understandings of how our desires are molded by gender, race, class and citizenship," said Essig.

Walters' lecture will be followed by the opening of the Guerrilla Girls exhibition, with a performance by Guerilla Girl Frida Khalo.

This year's Symposium was organized by Essig, Gender, Sexuality and Feminism Program Coordinator Madeleine Winterfalcon and Professor of Gender, Sexuality and Feminist Studies Sujata Moorti. Co-sponsors for the event include the Center for the Comparative Study of Race and Ethnicity and The American Studies Spiegel Family Fund.

COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Discussing a Social Honor Code

By David Yang

On Tuesday, April 8, Community Council met to discuss the idea of a Social Honor Code, a topic that has been debated during various meetings since last September. When the Council discussed dorm damage, hard alcohol policies and party registration, many members often mentioned how a social honor code would solve, or at least, alleviate, existing problems.

The idea of a Social Honor Code is not new, having been discussed year after year by Community Council and broached by the Student Government Association (SGA) back in 2001 in the form of a social component to the existing Honor Code. The interest in the idea has not diminished in recent years. Last January, after reports and surveys of incidents of academic dishonesty, the SGA Honor Code Committee conducted a survey about the Honor Code and its future.

Conflicting views currently exist on campus about the topic of the Honor Code. "You have a part of the campus [wanting] to diminish or get rid of the Honor Code we have," said Blake Shap-skinsky '15, "then you have another part of the campus [wanting] to expand it."

A Social Honor Code would require the whole community to sign it. Back

in 2006 the topic was discussed but "didn't move forward because Community Council at the time felt strongly that the entire community needed to endorse the Honor Code," according to Dean of the College and Community Council Co-Chair Shirley Collado.

"There was huge consensus around the value of having these standards, but the students really felt strongly that the faculty and staff needed to sign it and that they too would live by an Honor Code system here," she said.

At the time, faculty members resisted the idea of signing such a code. "There was discomfort in being required or expected to sign something that students were required to sign," said Collado.

Instead, some of the ideas that came out of the discussions surrounding a new Social Honor Code were brought about in the form of community standards.

"The community standards emerged because there were clear standards for each of the other communities," said Dean of Students Doug Adams. "Staff have a very clear set of standards, faculty have a clear code of ethics and responsibilities but students didn't at the time have [such a set of standards]."

Brook Escobedo, ex-officio of Middlebury Language Schools, compared the

idea of a Social Honor Code to the Language Pledge in place at the Middlebury Language Schools during the summer.

"The whole idea of that you come and you are signing this document in front of your school saying I'm going to follow this rule is [why a lot of students come]," said Escobedo.

A few members also discussed changing the culture around the Honor Code. "During orientation we went through an Honor Code ceremony where all our FYCs and Res-Life staff talked about their experience with the Honor Code and what was never brought up was the social aspect," said Reid Manheim '17. "So if that is something you can ingrain in freshmen really early on, you can have a true change of culture."

"We are actually striving to create an experience here that actually can't be replicated at any other point in your life," said Collado about the purpose of creating a Social Honor Code. "You have a moment in your life when not only are you learning all kinds of things academically but on a human level you are interacting [with others] in a residential community... If you can't do it here, I fundamentally believe, you can't leave this place and practice those core values the rest of your life."

Vt. House Considers School District Overhaul

By Conor Grant

Vermont's education may be in for an historical overhaul if legislation passed in Vermont's house of representatives last month passes at the end of this legislative cycle.

The proposed bill, H.883, would radically consolidate public education in Vermont by reducing the number of school districts in the state from 273 to 50 in the next five years.

Historically, the Vermont public education system has struggled to reconcile impulses for local governance with the financial benefits of consolidation.

In 1777, Vermont's state constitution was the first in English-speaking North America to mandate universal public funding for education. This initial mandate led to the creation of a number of tiny, independent village elementary schools.

The importance of agriculture in the early development of Vermont's residential landscape created a highly diffuse population across the state — and a highly diffuse network of public schools across the state to provide education to all corners of the state.

In the nineteenth century, migration to Vermont swelled due to increased prosperity and the success of Vermont's agricultural industry.

The simultaneous increase in agricultural productivity and overall population led to an increased school-going population that remained spread out through the state due to the continued importance of the agricultural sector.

The diffuse network of tiny schools

and school districts in Vermont persists in modern Vermont. The average number of students per Vermont school district is just 313 students, which is less than one tenth of the national average, according to a 2009 report.

Opinion on school board consolidation is mixed in Vermont, and each side of the argument has vocal advocates and opponents.

Proponents of school board consolidation argue that pooled financial resources will enable small schools and school districts to diversify the educational offerings available to students.

"Are you going to cut your music program or are you going to cut your art program?" asks Dan French, superintendent of the Bennington-Rutland Supervisory Union. "That's where [Vermont] is heading if we don't do governance change."

DAN FRENCH

SUPERINTENDANT OF THE BENNINGTON-RUTLAND SUPERVISORY UNION

nance change."

Proponents think that consolidation will afford students in rural districts the opportunity of sharing teachers and other educational resources that individual districts would not be able to afford them individually.

Critics of consolidation are equally vocal. Most detractors of school board consolidation cite the loss of venerated schools and of local influence on education as detrimental byproducts of consolidation.

Vermont schools may be generally small, but they are reliant on the input of local people for educational policy. Critics of consolidating policy measures argue that eliminating school districts would undermine local control by putting undue power in the hands of representatives from larger towns — at the expense of students in small towns who would have benefitted from specialized education.

"Access to decision makers and local community involvement is what makes Vermont successfully tick and our schools succeed," said Debra Stoleroff, director of the Renaissance Program at Twinfield Union High School in Plainfield, Vt.

In addition to the argument that small schools are more attuned to the needs of students, opponents of consolidation have also voiced concerns over the lost social benefits of small-town schools. Stoleroff says that small, local schools serve an important social function by fostering higher graduation rates, discouraging risky behavior and mitigating the divisiveness of poverty.

The H.833 Bill does not mark the first time that Vermonters will consider consolidation at a large scale, however.

In 1892, Vermont's state legislature required that Vermont schools — which all functioned as independent school

"[The consolidation conversation] requires us to strike a balance between the students and the taxpayers [and] balance that with our deep love of our very, very local democratic processes."

STEVE DALE

HEAD OF VT SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION

Beyond the town-scale consolidation, however, Vermont schools have resisted any attempts to further merge administrative bodies.

Since the 1896 decision, though, the many large-scale attempts to continue the process of consolidation by merging school districts have floundered. The school district landscape has remained largely unchanged, therefore, since the 1892 consolidation.

In 2010, the state legislature passed Act 153, the Voluntary School District Merger Act, which offered town school boards a number of incentives to consolidate. An interim report published by U.V.M.'s Jeffords research center in 2013, however, confirmed what many education commentators had already realized — that the act was ineffective at encouraging consolidation.

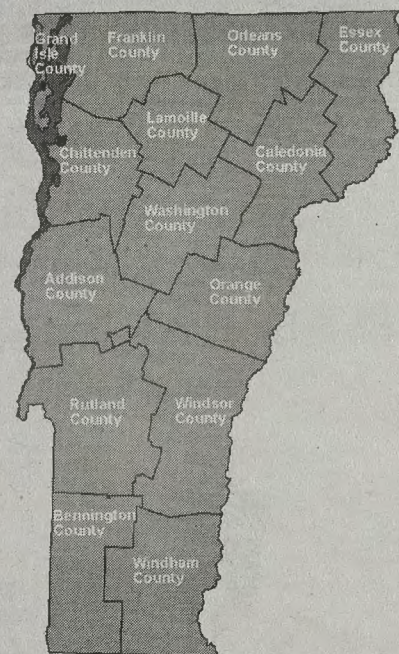
A number of school boards have already issued formal statements in response to the passage of the H.883 bill in the house. On March 26, the Rutland Northeast and Rutland Addison supervisory unions passed resolutions formally

rejecting the consolidation bill.

In a statement issued by the Rutland Northeast and Rutland Addison supervisory unions, the board stated their belief that "eliminating local school board governance is not conducive to promoting our democratic ideals and fostering social capital."

The Vermont Superintendents Association endorses the bill, but the Vermont School Boards Association has declined to adopt a formal stance due to the diversity of opinion among members of the association.

The conversation about consolidation is far from over. Steve Dale, head of the Vermont School Boards Association, reminds his colleagues and fellow citizens that "[the consolidation conversation] requires us to strike a balance between the students and the taxpayers [and] balance that with our deep love of

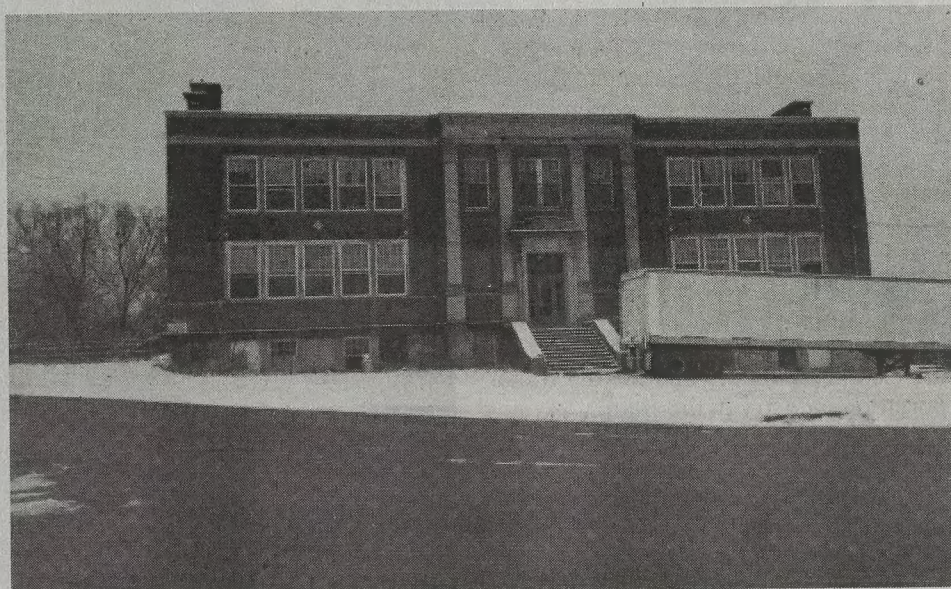


COURTESY VT GEO ALLIANCE

The above map shows all of the counties in Vermont — many of which contain ten or more school districts.

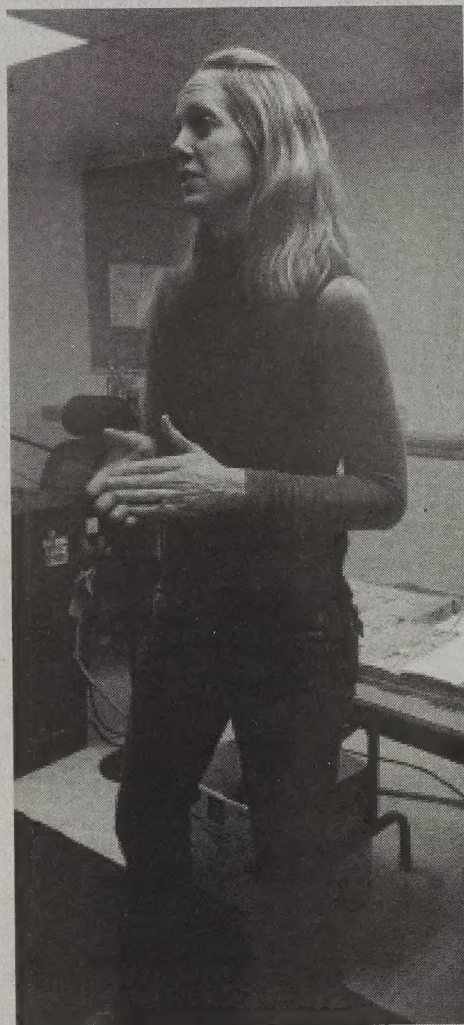
our very, very local democratic processes."

The bill still has to go through the state's Ways and Means and Appropriations committees before it undergoes final deliberation in the house — and then the state Senate must still deliberate on the bill. The huge surge in debate, however, seems to foreshadow continued consideration of educational consolidation and perhaps a dramatic shift in Vermont's school-board landscape in the near future.



COURTESY OF PROTECTION IN PINK

Brandon High School, pictured above, was abandoned in 1961 when the Otter Valley Union High School opened. Most Vermont schools are resistant to closure in spite of dwindling resources, but soon other Vermont schools may be forced to close if the H.883 bill passes through the House and the Senate.



COURTESY VPR

Charlotte Albright is a concerned Danville resident who articulated her concerns about the dangers of school consolidation at a recent local meeting.

CCTA Services Resume After Strike

By Conor Grant

On Friday, April 4th, Chittenden County Transportation Authority (CCTA) buses resumed their regularly scheduled routes.

This decision came after a tense, 18-day standoff between CCTA management leaders and drivers came to an end.

The CCTA board of commissioners and representatives of the bus drivers produced a three-year contract after days of deliberation. The board of commissioners then ratified the contract with a 53 – 6 vote.

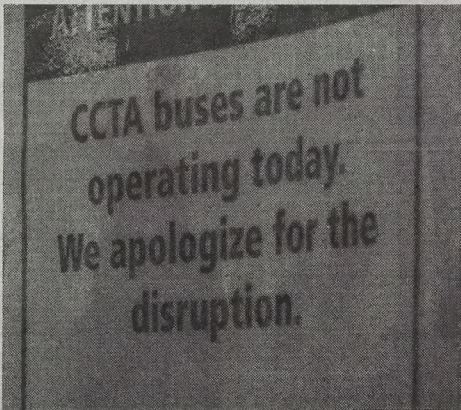
The drivers, who were represented by the Teamsters Local 597 chapter, saw the contract as a great victory for working-class Vermonters and for the transportation industry in the state.

After long negotiations, the two parties agreed to fix a 2 percent raise into the salary of all CCTA drivers for each year of the three-year contract. Furthermore, the CCTA management made provisions for a number of workplace concerns that were expressed by dissatisfied drivers.

Chief among the arguments levied by the drivers were concerns about shift lengthening, overly strict rules and penalties, part-time hiring policies, undue invasions of privacy and the observance of religious holidays.

Drivers had been frustrated with working conditions for months preceding the climactic strike, and they were happy to have their conditions met by the management. They are also generally excited to return to work.

"We're looking forward to going back



COURTESY OF WPTZ

CCTA posted signs about the strike.



COURTESY OF VPR

A number of striking drivers took to the streets with signs for public support.

to work," said driver Rob Slingerland. "We're looking around at our fellow drivers and understanding just how unified [we] became through this. And we fully understand we've got to stay unified."

A large swath of the greater Burlington community was significantly affected by the lengthy strike. More than 10,000 regular CCTA customers had to find alternate means of transportation options for the weeks during which the strike was taking place. Among those negatively affected by the strike were students at the University of Vermont (UVM) and at Burlington public schools.

"These past few weeks have been very challenging for Vermonters who count on CCTA every day to get to appointments, to work and to school," said Vermont Governor Peter Shumlin.

As the strike was going on, a number of community members mobilized to assist the drivers and the Teamsters group that represented them. Members of other unions, students and general local residents assisted in strike efforts by

handing out leaflets and starting conversations with other community members about CCTA working conditions.

At the conclusion of the contractual negotiations, the drivers walked away with what they considered a victory for themselves and for their customers. The 63 drivers who attended the final negotiation meeting expressed thanks to the many community members who demonstrated their solidarity and support during the strike.

"It's a very good feeling to know that somebody's got our backs when the times got tough and we ended up striking," said Slingerland. "[The community members] were there. Now it's time to pay that back."

Commuters in the area are happy to have the bus schedule back on track, and many have been even happier to realize that the CCTA has offered local bus rides at no expense for the first half of this week in an effort to apologize for inconvenience caused to customers during the strike.



SUBMIT YOUR CAPTION ON FACEBOOK OR INSTAGRAM AND THE BEST WILL BE FEATURED IN NEXT WEEK'S ISSUE!

LOCAL LOWDOWN 10

First Time Investing Workshop

Confused by the stock ticker at the bottom of your news program of choice? Unsure what NASDAQ, DOW and S&P really mean? Head on over to Orwell Free Library for an investing workshop oriented toward first-time investors. Bryan Young of the First National Bank will show attendees the tricks of the trade. For more information call 802-948-2041.

APR. 10, 6:30 – 8 P.M.

Fiber Arts Exhibit in Brandon

Old man winter may be leaving Vermont, but artistic winter quilts have just arrived. Come celebrate the opening of "Fabri-cations: Fabric and Fiber," an exhibit of textile art ranging from quilts to home decor at the Compass Music and Arts Center in Brandon. The exhibit will be open until June 15. For more information visit their website, at www.cmacvt.org.

APR. 11, 5 – 7:30 P.M.

Trail Maintenance Workshop

Take the path less traveled, and head on over to the Waterworks property in Bristol for a workshop on hiking trail maintenance and design. Conservation forester David Brynn and hydro-geologist Kristen Underwood will teach participants how to design, construct and maintain forest trails. The event is free and requires no pre-registration. For more information and directions to the site, call 802-453-7728.

APR. 12, 9 – 12 P.M.

Pancake Breakfast in Addison

Looking for a change in your dining? Head over to the Addison Fire Station and take advantage of this wonderful and unique Sunday morning event. The event will feature delightfully fluffy plain and blueberry flapjacks, sausage, bacon and a number of titillating beverage choices. This is a great way to kick off a beautiful spring day!

APR. 13, 7 – 11 A.M.

VANR Public Meeting

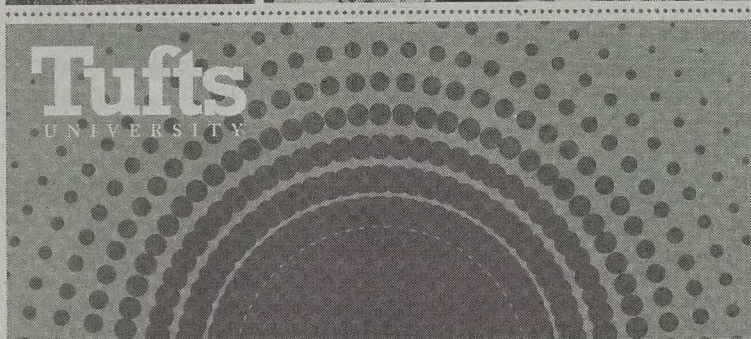
The Vermont Agency of Natural Resources will hold a public meeting aimed at stimulating discourse around the draft of the South Lake Champlain Tactical Basin Plan. The plan details the conditions of surface waters and local habitats, water quality problems, and a host of other issues. Come and make your voice heard in this important local issue. For more information call 802-786-2503.

APR. 15, 6:30 – 8:30 P.M.

Vergennes Community Meeting

All government is local — just ask Alexis de Tocqueville. Want to see how it functions? The second meeting in the Vergennes Community Visit, which aims to bring the community together to set "common goals" will meet this Wednesday. At the last meeting, over 100 concerned residents shared their opinions on a variety of local issues. For more information on the event, call 802-223-6091 or visit their website info@vtrural.org.

APR. 16, 6:30 – 9 P.M.



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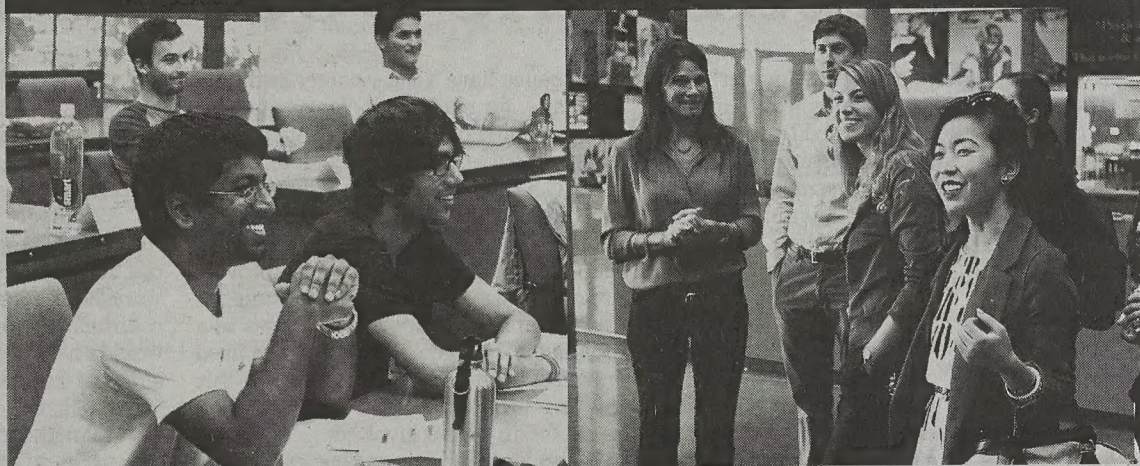
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SESSION DATES

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Big Things Are Happening At Crossroads

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What will they think of next?
 Bubble tea is what. This month, the Taiwanese tea is coming to Crossroads. Come by and try all four flavors: green tea, black tea, mango, and coconut for only \$3 a piece.

OPINIONS

The Middlebury Campus

Connecting the Dots with Career Services

EDITORIAL

The editorial represents the official opinion of the editorial board of *The Middlebury Campus*.

Do you have plans this summer? This stressful question resounds across campus far beyond the signs posted by the Center for Careers and Internships (CCI). As students scramble to pull together summer plans, post-graduation plans and funding proposals, many engage with the CCI or their resources for advice and opportunities. Despite their reach and funding, the CCI seems to have limited effect with the exception of a few fields. While tracks like consulting

and finance have a clear career path and hire early, for students looking to go in a different direction, we have often been disappointed – from limited internships on MOJO to being repeatedly referred to MiddCore, which if done over the summer is an additional \$9,500. We know the CCI makes a great effort to provide programming and other opportunities that are under-attended. We see this as a disconnect between what students need and what is offered and hope to make this resource with tremendous potential more useful for all parties involved.

Funding deadlines are one example of the discrepancy between the CCI's plans and the reality of the job market. While many students have not yet heard back from potential employers, the funding deadline was April 6, leaving students who need this already limited funding to pursue an unpaid internship searching for other opportunities. This gives internships with earlier notification deadlines, which tend to require a more formal application process than opportunities discovered through more unconventional routes, priority for funding. This is a give-and-take, for students who have secured internships early need to know if they can commit, but students who have not yet decided also need these funding options.

The appointment system is another example of a system out of touch with student needs. Instead of being able to choose the advisor who most closely reflects our career interests, we have to go to a drop-in meeting, hope the CCI is not busy and hope we get a useful advisor, who will likely just tell us to return for a longer meeting with someone else. This becomes an inefficient use of everyone's time.

The smattering of options on MOJO also reflect a very narrow swath of pathways. We have noticed, for example, a lack of media opportunities. Moreover, they are not often updated, with students on our Editorial Board going to discuss a posting with advisors, only to discover it was a few years old. These MOJO internships are also prioritized in the funding process, leaving students who want an internship outside what is available on MOJO with fewer options. Students could also use more support

for careers with complicated application processes and tests, like certain military career paths and the foreign service, just as we have pre-professional advising for careers in medicine and law.

We all receive a deluge of emails from the CCI to the point where we tune them out, leaving us uninformed about the useful workshops and opportunities. Better coordination among the CCI's platforms would help address this problem, so students receive one relevant newsletter a week that they know to read. A more streamlined, judicious use of email would help us pick and choose what is useful. Better coordination with departments and clubs would also help push these opportunities through different channels so we receive relevant information.

Take the *Campus* for example. Many of us are interested in useful discussions about careers in media, but we have very little contact with the CCI. Career discussions co-hosted by the *Campus* and other media outlets on campus could help draw a bigger audience and make the programming more dynamic. There is a reason the Goldman-Sachs information sessions can pack a room and that most other career paths cannot. People see value

in attending finance events. We should make other events equally beneficial and soliciting student organizations is a good place to start.

The Project on Creativity and Innovation (PCI) has done a great job trying to address many of the problems outlined above, working to provide a pathway for students to enter innovative and creative fields or organizations post-graduation. They held their first call last month with five different alumni working at startups to discuss their experiences with interested students. This kind of consolidated call in other fields sponsored by the CCI would allow for students to prioritize just one call with five different people instead of attending five different career conversations and would bring a broader group of people in who cannot necessarily travel to our remote campus.

As students, we must do a better job of engaging with the resources the CCI has to offer, but by adapting the program to be more relevant to what we are looking for and what our schedules require, we can enhance the value of the CCI and make the internship and job search process less stressful for all involved.

The Middlebury Campus

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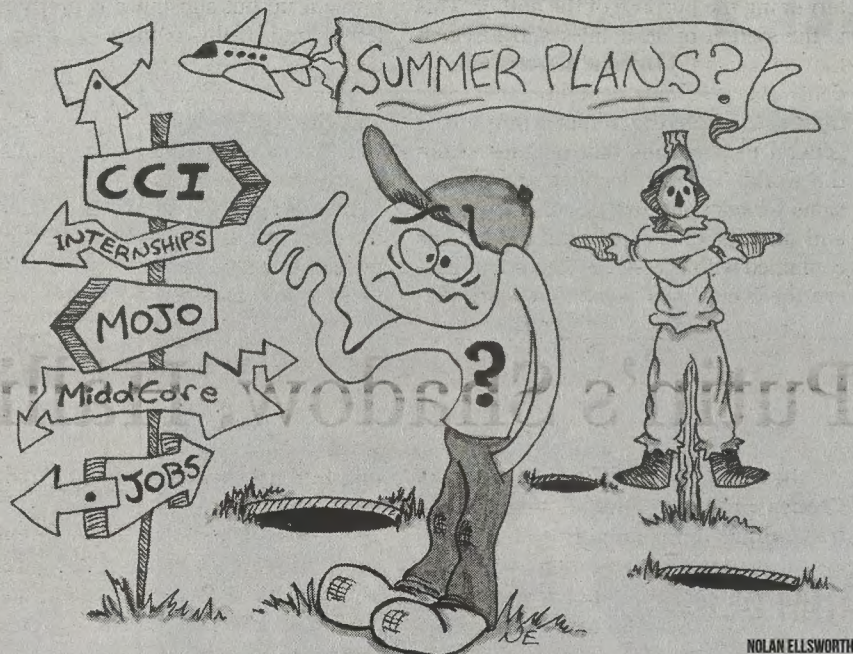
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The Opinions pages of *The Middlebury Campus* provide a forum for constructive and respectful dialogue on substantive issues. With this in mind, *The Campus* reserves the right to deny publication of all or part of a submission for any reason. This includes, but is not limited to: the making of assertions based on hearsay; the relation of private conversations; the libelous mention of unverifiable events; the use of vulgar language or personal attacks. Any segment of a submitted article that contains any of the aforementioned will be removed before publication. Contributors will be allowed to reference prior articles published in the Opinions section or announcements for the public record. If a reference is made to prior articles, the submission will be considered a letter to the editor. *The Campus* will not accept or print anonymous letters. The opinions expressed by contributors to the Opinions section, as well as reviews, columns, editorial comics and other commentary, are views of the individual contributors and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the newspaper. *The Campus* welcomes letters to the editor at 250 words or less, or opinions submissions at 800 words or less. Submit works directly to the Opinions Editors, Drawer 30, campus@middlebury.edu or via the paper's web site at www.middleburycampus.com. To be considered for publications, submissions must be received by 5 p.m. Sunday. *The Campus* reserves the right to edit all submissions.

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NOLAN ELLSWORTH

A COLLECTIVE OF MIDDLEBURY VOICES

We're proud to announce *beyond the green*. Launching today, *beyond the green* is a collective of voices that will be represented in an online publication as the central location of our voices.

READER OPED

Beyond the Green is a new online student publication that can be reached at beyondthegreen14@gmail.com.

chose the name, *beyond the green*, as a play on words: part of the Middlebury mission statement says that "the college also reaches far beyond the Green Mountains... [connecting] our community to other places, countries and cultures." To us, *beyond the green* represents the need to express a multitude of experiences at Middlebury that transcend physical space; the need to go beyond the agenda of Middlebury Inc.; and the need to imagine a space beyond "the campus green" which symbolically embodies institutional initiatives.

We will also publish a weekly column in the *Campus*. We think it is important to also publish in the *Campus* because we want to provide a counter-narrative directly alongside opinion pieces that promote post-racial, post-feminist, neoliberal politics. While we hope to carve out a consistent column in the *Campus* that represents opinions aligning with our politics, we must draw support from our online publication in order to do this. The *Campus* continues to be an important site of engagement, but we are creating our own publication because the *Campus* cannot

provide enough space for our opinions without taking on our politics. We are also publishing in the *Campus* because we want the Middlebury College archives to document our opinions. Moreover, the *Campus* is a good way to advertise our efforts.

beyond the green: collective of middlebury student voices is a student run publication that aims to provide space for voices that are not being heard on our campus. We are motivated to create *beyond the green* because we feel marginalized and silenced by the mainstream platforms available, including the student newspaper, the *Campus*, and the online alternative paper, *Middbeat*. For some of us, not being able to express ourselves without invalidation represents a double marginalization, as our voices, bodies and experiences are already simultaneously devalued and hypervisible. We want to be proactive, not reactive, and use writing as a way to support and ultimately achieve structural and institutional change. We feel as though individually our voices are often ignored in the face of the hegemonic Middlebury discourse, but collectively we will be able to engage with the Middlebury community more effectively.

As a collective, *beyond the green* is grounded by politics that are radical, anti-racist, anti-sexist, anti-classist, anti-ableist, and anti-homophobic (as well as strongly opposed to all forms of oppression). We reject the structurally neoliberal paradigm that exists at Middlebury and also oppose the "liberal" politics often expressed in the *Campus* because these politics are not transformative. The reasons behind our formation are many, but the predominate one is a feeling that our poli-

tics are alienated within campus dialogue; the so-called free market of ideas on campus is an illusion, one which exists only to support one strong ideology. Within our collective, we may not always agree, and we will allow space to challenge each other; however, ultimately we share the same principles and intentions and are committed to moving forward on this ground with solidarity and purpose. Moreover, we acknowledge the potential and probability that the articles we publish may be messy and emotional because the things we write about will be so close to our lived experiences. Rather than espousing the idea that all written work in the public eye must be detached and hyper-intellectual, we welcome the fact that our articles will be written with passion, with love, with anger and overall, with purpose. Instead of engaging only with those who devalue our voices, experiences and values, we are creating our own platform, unifying in the face of this disregard and rejecting the idea that we must conform to the dominant Middlebury narrative and forum.

beyond the green will be accepting submissions on a rolling basis that align with our mission statement. If you would like to contact or submit to this publication please email us at beyondthegreen14@gmail.com. We will be accepting pieces of writing (poetry, creative non-fiction, mini-essay, rants, lists, stories, commentary on campus events or "real world" topics, etc.) as well as photographs, video blogs, artwork (if already scanned) and event submissions. Check out our website at go/beyondthegreen, which will be updated weekly with regular columns (please contact if you would like to be a regular contributor) and submissions.

A Critique of Pure Reading

ECHOES

Alex Newhouse '17 is from Boulder, Colo.

In my short time here at Middlebury, I estimate that on average, I read about 400 pages a week for class. This guess takes into account those weeks when my professors assign shorter, but denser, academic papers, and those when a novel is completed every other day. Often, a seven-day period will require me to read upwards of 700 pages across several different books and articles. I willingly chose the literature/political science path, and so I accept this burden to an extent, but this experience is not exclusive to my situation. I cannot count the number of times I've heard students lament the fact that they have 300 plus pages to finish in one night. Listening to these woes and experiencing my own, I have realized that the line between necessary and excessive amounts of reading has not just been crossed, it has been blasted through. Although there must certainly be reasons for it, such a practice does not seem conducive to either effective learning or psychological health.

First and foremost, a barrage of reading renders it nearly impossible to fully comprehend the significance of any one piece. Each time we read, we receive information, process it and analyze it, determining the purpose of the author. This is the system of academics and research that is generally second-nature to students. But the fundamental point of class time is to apply the author's purpose to general mechanisms that operate within the world. Through lectures and discussions we take our analysis of the reading and attempt to reconcile the arguments contained within with the forces that govern the events we observe. We learn that

each author presents a different perspective with which to study these events. The problem with a heavy amount of reading, therefore, is that we receive an excess of viewpoints. Especially in classes that cover previously unknown subject matter, a student can go from having no framework with which to study the subject to having a dozen over the course of a couple weeks. Many of those perspectives compete with each other; some are outright contradictory. Since there is simply not enough class time in a college system, therefore, how can a student possibly be able to come to a meaningful conclusion about the subject matter? Sure, often there is some underlying structure that the class teaches, but stopping at this severely undermines the import of the readings. The full application of any one argument is infeasible when confronted with the deafening array of different viewpoints and an overall lack of sufficient time to discuss it.

Heavy reading also lessens the value of the material. Remember very much of those first assignments at the beginning of the semester? I'm sometimes hard-pressed to recall much of the content I read last week, let alone two months ago. I have consumed so many pages of information since the beginning of the year that very little ever stands out. Books quickly fade to echoes; general points are occasionally brought up but substance is pretty much left behind. If this is the case, then, why do we even need to read the entire book or article? Would it not be more efficient and effective to simply read a passage or two that summarize the main points and clearly state the impacts of those points? I strongly support reading the products of the great minds of history, but if the purpose of these classes is to cover as many perspectives and arguments as possible

then it would seem better served by heavily abridged reading loads. That way, they will be less readily forgotten and will not be lost to the incessant waves of information and rhetoric.

Finally, however, this practice often harms the psychological health of students. Every time a massive assignment is completed, another one is there to take its place. Although obviously procrastination is a factor, 300-page nights are the products of unending piles of books and articles that must be read. It is extremely difficult to ever not have those nights, especially with two or three reading-intensive classes. As a result, it is easy to feel behind, because there is no way to ever feel that the work is complete for a while, with another 300 page assignment due the next day. In addition, for me at least, this

practice negates my desire to read for fun. After so much reading, I find myself unable to pick up a novel for enjoyment. My ability to concentrate on a written story is entirely eliminated.

I believe that something needs to change. Ideally, more discussion would take the place of some of the readings. This would allow the significance of each article or book to be more fully explored, and it would better solidify the importance of each author's arguments for the student. Classes would be able to investigate the application of arguments more completely, furthering the understanding of the subject matter as a whole. Finally, it would significantly reduce the strain on the students and would give a little room to breathe to those like me who want to read for fun again.



JENA RITCHEY

Putin's Shadow, Halliburton and Keystone XL

WARM GLOW

Hudson Cavanagh '14 is from New York, N.Y.

War ideology to drive American foreign policy and reshape our domestic economic and political institutions towards serving military purposes — the so called "Military Industrial Complex" — we will put at risk not only our international authority, but we, the United States, may pose a threat to global stability rivaling that of Putin. In the words of the esteemed English historian A.J.P. Taylor, "The great armies, accumulated to provide security and preserve the peace, carried the nations to war by their own weight."

Paul Ryan's newly released budget proposal would represent a return to Bush-era military funding, reversing the military spending cuts initiated by the sequestration. It seeks to revive the U.S. war machine in a time of peace. In order to avoid escalation with Russia, it may be more important for the world that the U.S. elects "doves" than Democrats in the 2014 and 2016 elections.

Russia's recent acts of aggression are not only concerning in themselves, but provide rhetorical ammunition for war-mongers to call into question the timing of the military drawbacks initiated by the sequestration. These facts will likely be spun by pundits and "hawk" politicians into the simplistic narrative that while Moscow grows stronger, we cannot be seen as weak and therefore we must ramp up military funding. We, the educated public, should be deeply skeptical of such claims.

The truth is our military already has the capacity to defeat any state. Increasing

military spending will not make us more secure and should be a policy of last resort. Harsh economic sanctions, energy diplomacy and multilateral cooperation with allies remain our best strategies for deterring Russian aggression and avoiding conflict.

We must be aware of the risks posed by our own state, over which the public has little control in times of war. Since World War II our government has covertly overthrown countless regimes, fueled war by supplying weapons to states around the world and unilaterally initiated conflict. This, in turn, fed a negative feedback cycle of increased military funding. U.S. militarization represents an existential threat to international peace and the health of our democracy.

The recent overhaul of Russian offensive capabilities, despite Russian economic stagnation, suggests a new vision for Russian foreign policy in which its offensive military capacity will play a defining role. In light of Putin's apparent belief in Russia's manifest destiny to reclaim the territories lost during the collapse of the U.S.S.R., these developments are very concerning to states around the world, especially the former U.S.S.R., whose independence we should defend. Nonetheless, building allegiances with non-aligned states may be the best deterrence to Moscow's aggression. If we are to make new allies, our authority in countering Russian aggression must be based on trust, soft power and democratic accountability, not just military strength.

The risks associated with increasing military spending are largely inter-

nal: increasing the influence of private military contractors could threaten our commitment to institutionalized conflict resolution and pacifism, thereby undermining our moral high ground over Russia. The recent Supreme Court ruling *McCutcheon v. F.E.C.* has gone beyond Citizens United in liberalizing campaign spending, expanding the latitude of defense contractors to lobby government efforts. We are likely to see a flood of campaign funding intended to move the political needle, among both Democrats and Republicans, towards increasing defense spending.

We must beware the influence of these glorified mercenaries, whose interests are not aligned with those of America. The empowerment of our increasingly privatized defense sector, who will profit greatly from conflict, represents the greatest potential accelerant to escalation with Russia — or any other enemy.

Russian coercion of the Ukrainian state by raising energy prices foreshadows an era of global energy diplomacy in which the expansion of domestic fracking and other energy infrastructure investments, like Keystone XL, may be increasingly justified if the U.S. is to compete with Russian oil reserves. Though liquefied natural gas is years away from being export-ready, the ability of the U.S. to offer subsidized energy to Russia's neighbors to withstand a potential oil embargo or balance our budget may prove more valuable than an extra fleet of F-16s and, to some, justify the catastrophic climate impact of increasing fossil fuel extraction. We should expect to be faced with no good options; we must weigh accel-

erating climate change by expanding our energy capacity against the long-term impact on health of the planet. We need to foster open, thoughtful, public debate about the trade-offs of these looming, painful decisions. It only stands to reason that those most vulnerable to climate change, fracking and pipeline construction will be forced to shoulder the costs of an energy arms race. We must keep them — and the health of our planet as a whole — in mind. Seeking alliances with energy-rich countries like Venezuela, Azerbaijan and even Iran, despite the unsavory and corrupt regimes in power, may be necessary. On a brighter note, investments in promising innovations in renewable energy may become increasingly important for national security. Bearing in mind the strategic importance of such decisions, we must hold our government accountable lest we lose our national character in the fog of war.

Projections about what may happen in the coming years are purely speculative. Indeed, I hope that fears of Russian aggression are overblown. Nonetheless, pacifism, the development of alliances and the institutional resolution of disputes must triumph over military escalation if we are to avoid the worst.

It is not Putin, but the fear of our own weakness, that poses the greatest threat to American democracy, to the environment and to the stable and prosperous international status quo. We must stand up against war until the United States is left with no other option but to respond with force. In the words of the French philosopher and activist Simone Weil, "The great error of nearly all studies of war... has been to consider war as an episode in foreign policies, when it is an act of interior politics." If the will of the American people is tested with the temptation of false security and the fleeting glory of war, we must steadfastly demand peace.

"It is not Putin, but the fear of our own weakness, that poses the greatest threat to American democracy, to the environment and to the stable and prosperous international status quo."

Ghosts of History Past Social Media Blazes

READER OPED

Felix Klos '14 is from Hilversum, The Netherlands

his political power. Against the backdrop of a Dutch flag spanning the entire backside of a medium-sized beer cellar in the political capital of the Netherlands, Mr. Wilders asked his boisterous audience three questions.

"Do you want more or less European Union?" The audience, familiar by now with Mr. Wilders' crusade against the ever-closer cooperation of European nation-states—he has suggested violent rebellion if the EU gains powers of taxation—responded with a somewhat scattered but loud "Less! Less! Less!" The crowd repeated the word 13 times. Wilders, building momentum, continued with the precise eagerness of a hunter who is about to corner his prey. "Do you want more or less Labour Party?" The Dutch Labour Party (PvDA), it had become apparent before Mr. Wilders entered the room, had lost political control over Amsterdam, the Dutch capital and most populous city with roughly 800,000 inhabitants, for the first time since coming to power in 1949. Even Wilders' disciples, whose confused populism combines leftist and rightist conservatism, seemed to commiserate with the social-democrats. "Less! Less! Less!" they uttered just eleven times.

Wilders, visibly in need of a brief recovery after the underwhelming response, looked down on his bright green tie, then turned his eyes to the floor, before prefacing his third question with an expression of acute awareness of what his next move would bring about. "And the third question is...and I'm not actually allowed to say this, because I will be reported to the police... But freedom of speech is an obvious good. We haven't said anything illegal. Nothing that is not true. So, I ask you. Do you want, in this city and in the Netherlands, more or fewer Moroccans?" This time, the ensuing chant was reminiscent of the response Joseph Goebbels elicited in his Berlin Sportpalast speech of February 10, 1933, which offered the national-socialist 'solution' for Germany's Post-WWI pains. Mr. Goebbels, who served as Hitler's Minister for Propaganda between 1933 and 1945, racing in the rhythm of his rhetoric, assured his audience that "the Jewish insolence has lived longer in the past than it will live in the future." The crowd laughed derisively, applauded, and clamored, with many rising to their feet to extend their right arm at a 45-degree angle.

The congregation of Wilders-devotees in The Hague responded in unison to the question on the presence of Moroccans—a group that makes up about 2% of the total Dutch population—yelling "Fewer! Fewer! Fewer!" The chant lasted a total of 16 repetitions of the word ('minder' in Dutch). Bask-

ing in the success of his kill, Mr. Wilders observed his surroundings, wetted his upper lip twice with his thin tongue in a gesture that completed his unnerving resemblance to a colubrid, and assured the Dutch on national television that "we will take care of that, then." The crowd laughed derisively, applauded, and clamored.

As Mr. Wilders would find out soon after his address, the Dutch midterm elections forced the Party for Freedom, which thrives on the populist appeal of Mr. Wilders—he is the party's only member—to surrender political dominance in all but one municipality. Having previously suffered significant defeat in the Dutch national elections of September 2012, Mr. Wilders differs much from Minister Goebbels in terms of executive power. That is not to say, however, that his populist rhetoric has failed to make an imprint on Dutch politics. Mr. Wilders' hard-right campaign against European integration, Islam and ethnic groups brought him as far as holding a position of de facto governing power when the PVV served as the supporting party for the 2010 minority coalition of the Dutch Conservative Party (VVD) and Christian Democrats (CDA). Today, Mr. Wilders' 15 seats in the Dutch lower chamber still see him represent 10% of the total population. Far more problematically, Mr. Wilders' influence has pulled the Conservative Party (VVD) closer to demagoguery and xenophobia, and has successfully normalized anti-EU, anti-immigrant, and nationalist discourse in Dutch politics.

But for all the negativity that has surrounded the Dutch midterm elections, their outcome also holds the promise of a reversal in the populist trend of the past 10 years. Mr. Wilders' speech has provoked public outrage among the Dutch, leading one PVV parliamentarian to cut all ties with the party on Thursday afternoon. As of Thursday night, over a thousand Dutchmen have reported Mr. Wilders' discriminatory remarks to the police. Perhaps even more promisingly, Prime Minister Rutte (VVD), finally collapsing under the weight of party elders and European peers, announced late Thursday night that he has ruled out the possibility of forming a coalition government with Mr. Wilders if he maintains his views.

Finally, Democrats 66 (D66), the only Dutch party that has consistently refused to accept the Mr. Wilders' brand of populism as tolerable political practice, emerged from the local elections as the undisputed victor, becoming the largest party in three of The Netherlands' most populous cities: Amsterdam, The Hague, and Utrecht. The progressive centrists of D66-leader Alexander Pechtold will seek to translate this local power to a widening influence on a national and European scale. To a large extent, the Dutch reputation for religious tolerance depends on how successful Pechtold is in meeting his challenge.

I am not sure how many of you caught the news over the break. Amidst missing airlines and aggressive Russian foreign policy you may have noticed a headline about a particularly bad fire in Boston. While usually a fire is not newsworthy, this one made the headlines as it occurred on a day with 50 mile per hour winds coming off the Charles River and tragically claimed the lives of two firefighters. The burning home in question sits across the street from mine.

My home was unharmed and through a struggle that lasted upwards of 24 hours the fire was eventually contained. However, being in a city and being in such close proximity made my family a part of the situation whether or not we wanted to be. The Internet and cable lines were cut early on and most of our news, somewhat ironically, simply came from looking out the window. For those of you that have seen fires that consume houses you know that there is more smoke than fire usually. Great, rancid plumes covered the streets in my neighborhood, while fire trucks, ambulances and police cruisers filled the streets. Strangely though, instead of fleeing an apocalyptic scene, a crowd formed on the corner of my street, iPhones held outstretched to document the whole thing.

I am no Luddite; it is hard to imagine anyone of our generation is. In many ways the integration of technology and social media into our daily lives has defined our generation, and we have changed the world for it. Usually, I would see this as a benefit. Faster communication, free information, the global spread of ideas and perspectives are all good things. Yet, as I stood looking out my window as screaming firefighters pulled one of their burned and dying brothers from an inferno I could not help but feel disgusted as a crowd recorded the whole thing.

I have been lucky enough to have seen only one person die, calmly in bed and surrounded by his family. That event had a gravitas to it. Everyone in the room understood at a human level what could be said or done in that moment. A priest was present and the family prayed and cried together. There was a code of ethics built into the situation and while the rest of the world did not know my grandfather or my family, everyone pulled over when the funeral procession drove to the graveyard.

Perhaps it was naïve of me to assume similar unwritten laws would govern the virtual world. However, it seems the codes of respect and dignity that hold true in human interaction are insufficient in the virtual world where privacy and accountability

are iffy at best. I sincerely wonder whether those videos garnered likes and re-tweets in the days that followed. Did people feel validated? That maybe they had provided some kind of service? Would people feel a little unnerved to watch firefighters try to resuscitate a dying brother while people screamed for an ambulance?

We have yet to come up with ethics for our new world of social media. The tools seem to have evolved faster than our morality. Whether we like it or not, this will be an issue for our generation. The Internet is rapidly becoming less and less of the anonymous, private tool it once was. The frontier is being tamed, no longer is anything truly private and total anonymity is becoming a thing of the past. This is not such a bad thing, is it? Should we not punish hate speech on the Internet as we would if it were on the sidewalk? Why would certain laws be exempt in the virtual world?

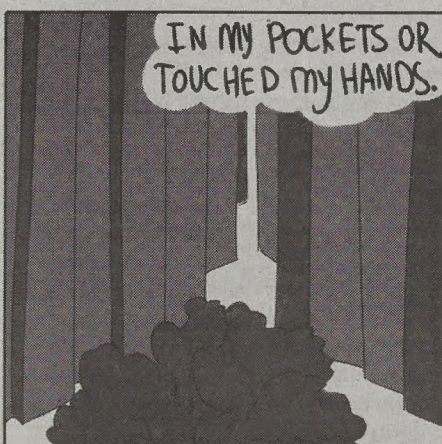
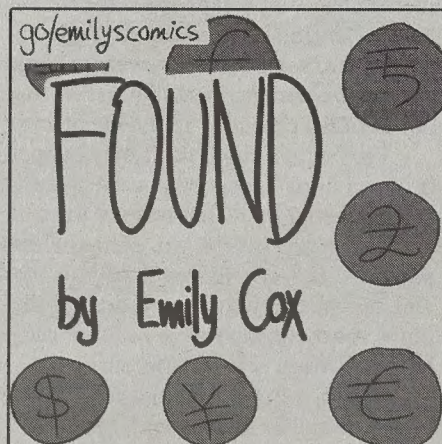
What concerns me more is the ethics we will build in this virtual environment. As of now it seems we are sorely lacking. Hurtful personal content and often lies can be propagated at the click of a button. Things we speak about with hushed tones in person can be given a megaphone on the Internet. Hopefully, in a community or a classroom this would be met by rebukes or admonishments. People would honk at the car tailgating a hearse. The Internet does not yet have those social customs that keep us getting along in the real world day to day. It is up to us to build them. Technology is not slowing and information will only move faster. We should anticipate this. We will have to formalize it, make certain practices unacceptable not in law, but in culture. So that maybe when a firefighter dies in the street, our phones are turned to silent instead of posting to Facebook.

THE UNPOPULAR OPINION

Andrew DeFalco '15.5 is from Boston, Mass.



AMR THAMEEN



Thank you, Senior Fellows!

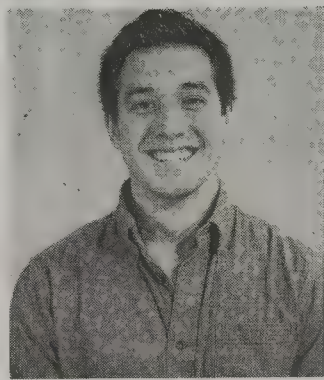
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Ashali Bhandari



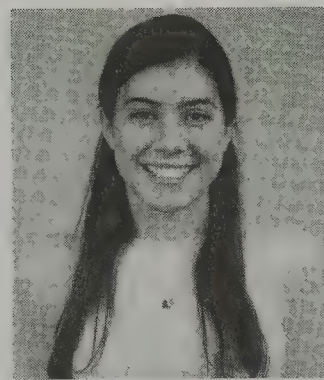
Ryan Brewster



Jenny Johnston



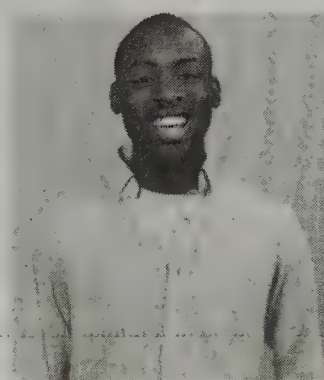
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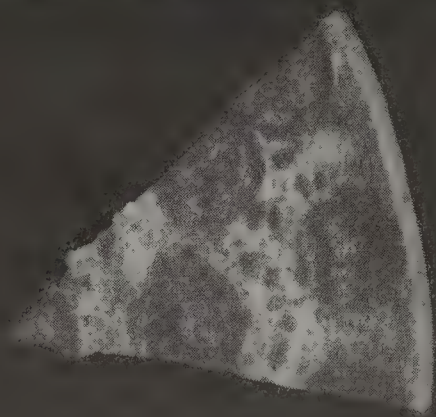
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LIVING IN THE ADD

When Emma was diagnosed with Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) in grade school, her parents refused to give consent for psychostimulant medication, instead resorting to behavioral therapy and tutoring. But when she got to the College, the workload became too much. After struggling to keep up as a first-year, she was prescribed Adderall as she went into her sophomore year.

"I remember the first day that I took it," she said. "I felt really uncomfortable in situations other than doing work and didn't really know what to do with my hands or where to look with my eyes, but when I was doing work it felt like I was in that movie Bruce Almighty when he's typing on the computer really fast."

She was first prescribed two 10mg fast acting Adderall a day. When she did not feel anything, the dosage was upped to 20mg three times a day. Her doctor told her to only take two pills a day, but prescribed her three to make sure she did not run out. Because Adderall is a schedule II controlled substance, Emma cannot fill her prescription across state lines in Vermont.

While Adderall has only been around since the late 1990s, psychostimulants have been ingrained in American culture. First discovered in 1887, they had no pharmacological use until 1934 when they were sold as an inhaler for nasal decongestant. Once the addictive properties of the drug became known, psychostimulants became a schedule II controlled substance in the early 1970s.

"If you look at the history of amphetamines, it was a miracle chemical, but they didn't know what to do with it," said Assistant Professor of Sociology Rebecca Tiger. "It couldn't just be thrown on the open market, so they called it a drug, but then they needed to find a disease for it to treat. Amphetamines have been racing around looking for a disease because people want to use them."

Psychostimulants regulate impulsive behavior and improve attention span and focus by increasing levels of dopamine in the brain. Dopamine is the neurotransmitter involved in natural rewards such as food, water and sex. Depending on the dosage, psychostimulants can boost dopamine levels 2 - 10 times more than a natural reward.

Put simply, dopamine is a key driver of happiness. The chemical is the key to many popular drugs — from opiates like heroin to amphetamines like MDMA. The release of dopamine in the brain after taking psychostimulants causes the euphoria users often feel. But when you constantly feed your brain dopamine, it can diminish your ability to make it independently.

While her grades shot up during her sophomore year, Emma felt the full force of the side effects. Growing up, Emma was outgoing and vivacious, but the Adderall made her reserved and quiet. As a result, she was often forced into a zero-sum game between academics and basic social happiness. Adderall often took precedent.

"I tried to avoid hanging out with people when I was on it, but that's hard since it lasts a pretty long time, and then coming off it at night, it would make me really emotional and sad. It was really hard when I was coming down off of it to tell myself this is the Adderall and I shouldn't actually be sad about whatever I was feeling."

The sadness Emma felt after coming down from her Adderall is called anhedonia, or the loss of

pleasure from things we naturally find rewarding.

As her relationship with the drug evolved, she learned basic parameters of what she could and could not do with Adderall. If she took it too late in the evening, she wouldn't sleep. If she did not take any for a few days, she had to take it early in the day or risk insomnia. But when finals rolled around, all bets were off.

"Especially during finals, it got kind of aggressive. I would take it at like 10 p.m., work all night, go to bed at 4 a.m., wake up at a normal time, take another one, and continue doing work."

There are more than a dozen different medications currently on the market to treat ADHD. While there are slight differences between medications, Adderall and Ritalin have become the poster children for psychostimulants. Emma has tried both.

If the College has an expert on the psychostimulants, it is Assistant Professor of Psychology and Neuroscience Clarissa Parker. Before arriving in 2013, Parker spent 10 years studying genetic risk factors associated with drug abuse and dependence, including sensitivity to the reinforcing effects of psychostimulants such as methamphetamine in mice. Parker said one of her main concerns is younger and younger ages at which psychostimulants are prescribed.

"For me, the problem lies in the fact that so many people take it during a time when their pre-frontal cortex is still developing," she said. "We know this part of the brain continues to develop into the mid-20s. When you combine that with the age group that is most likely to abuse drugs — high school and college — it's dangerous."

For big pharmaceuticals, stimulated minors means major profits. In numerous articles, the New York Times has reported on how the industry has lobbied heavily to push for medication over behavioral therapy.

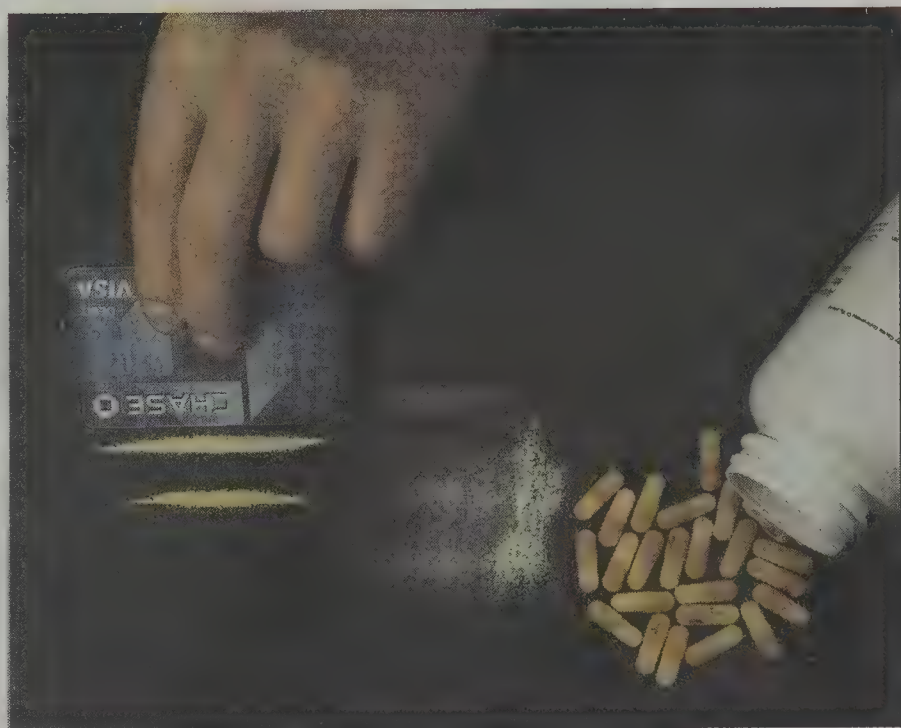
"Studies have shown that there isn't much long-term difference between Adderall usage and behavioral therapy for treating ADHD," Parker said. "There are other ways to get the same effect, they just aren't as immediate."

Parker was quick to draw a line between people who take the drug responsibly under medical supervision and those who take it without a prescription, those who crush and snort their medication or those who take more than prescribed, repeatedly clarifying that the negative side effects affect those who abuse it. But Tiger thinks that line has little to do with medicine.

"The line you draw between people who need it and people who don't is a cultural construct," she said. "My interest is in who draws that line, and what their interest is in drawing it. People rarely use drugs the way they are supposed to, so in a way we are all abusing these drugs."

Besides attending the College and taking Adderall, Max '15 and Emma have little in common. A third-year lacrosse player, Max never encountered psychostimulant use while in high school, but quickly found it at the College.

"I remember when I was a first-year, and I was in

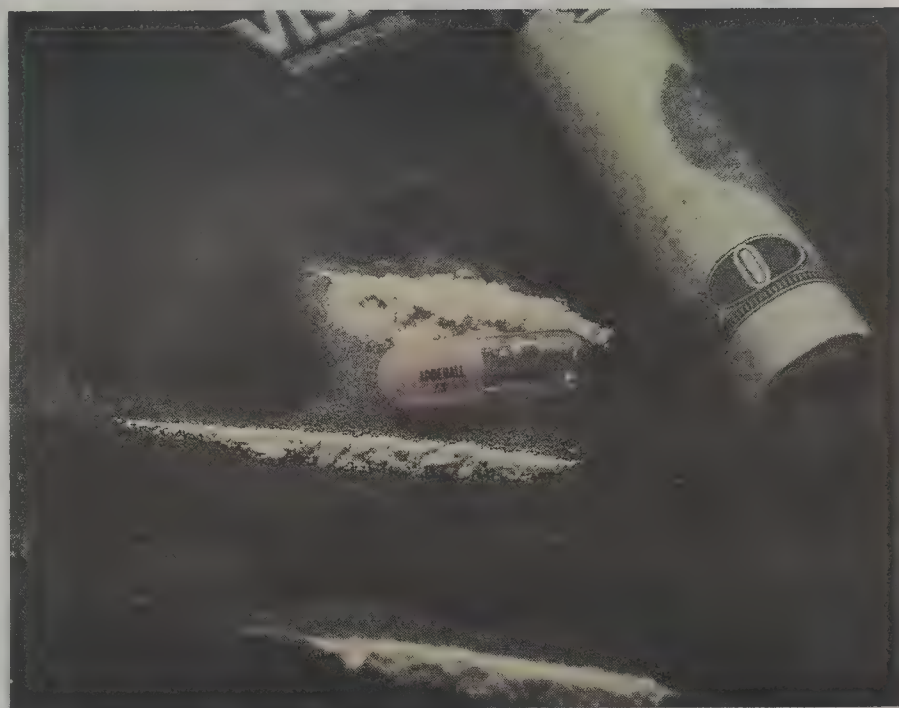


"AMPHETAMINES HAVE BEEN RACING AROUND LOOKING FOR A DISEASE BECAUSE PEOPLE WANT TO USE THEM."

Rebecca Tiger
Associate Professor of Sociology

"IF THE AMOUNT OF PEOPLE TAKING ADDERALL WERE DOING COKE, IT WOULD BE CONSIDERED A HUGE PROBLEM."

Max '15



ADDERALL GENERATION

BY KYLE FINCK
PHOTOS BY ANTHEA VON VIRAGH
DESIGN BY EVAN GALLAGHER

this kid's room, and he was crushing up pills. I didn't know what they were doing until he just told me 'doing homework.' They called it skizzing."

With the stress of midterms building four months into his college career, Max took Adderall for the first time.

"I wrote a five-page paper in an hour," Max described. "That's when I realized, 'this is nuts.' There are a lot of athletes on different teams that can't do work without snorting Adderall. Anything that requires putting your mind to: Adderall. That's what steered me away from taking it a lot. I couldn't get like that."

Max does not have a prescription and estimated that he takes it five times a semester. Across athletics, he estimated that 60 percent use psychostimulants as a tool to get schoolwork done. When asked how easy it would be to obtain five pills, he took out his phone — "one text."

In the 2013 survey, conducted by Ben Tabah '13, over 20 percent of males reported experimenting with psychostimulants compared to only 10 percent of females. When asked about the difference, Parker noted that in animal models she had worked with, there were no sex differences in psychostimulant usage.

"You can teach a mouse to self-administer drugs, and there aren't sex differences in the amount they administer stimulants like cocaine and dexamphetamine (an ingredient in Adderall) which suggests to me the issue is not about sex, but more about gender," she said.

Social constructions around Adderall are apparent beyond just gender usage. Cocaine is often viewed as a whole different class of drug socially than Adderall, despite their similar chemical makeups, effects, and legal classification.

"Coke is scary to me," Emma said. "It seems more intense to me because it is illegal and it could be cut with anything."

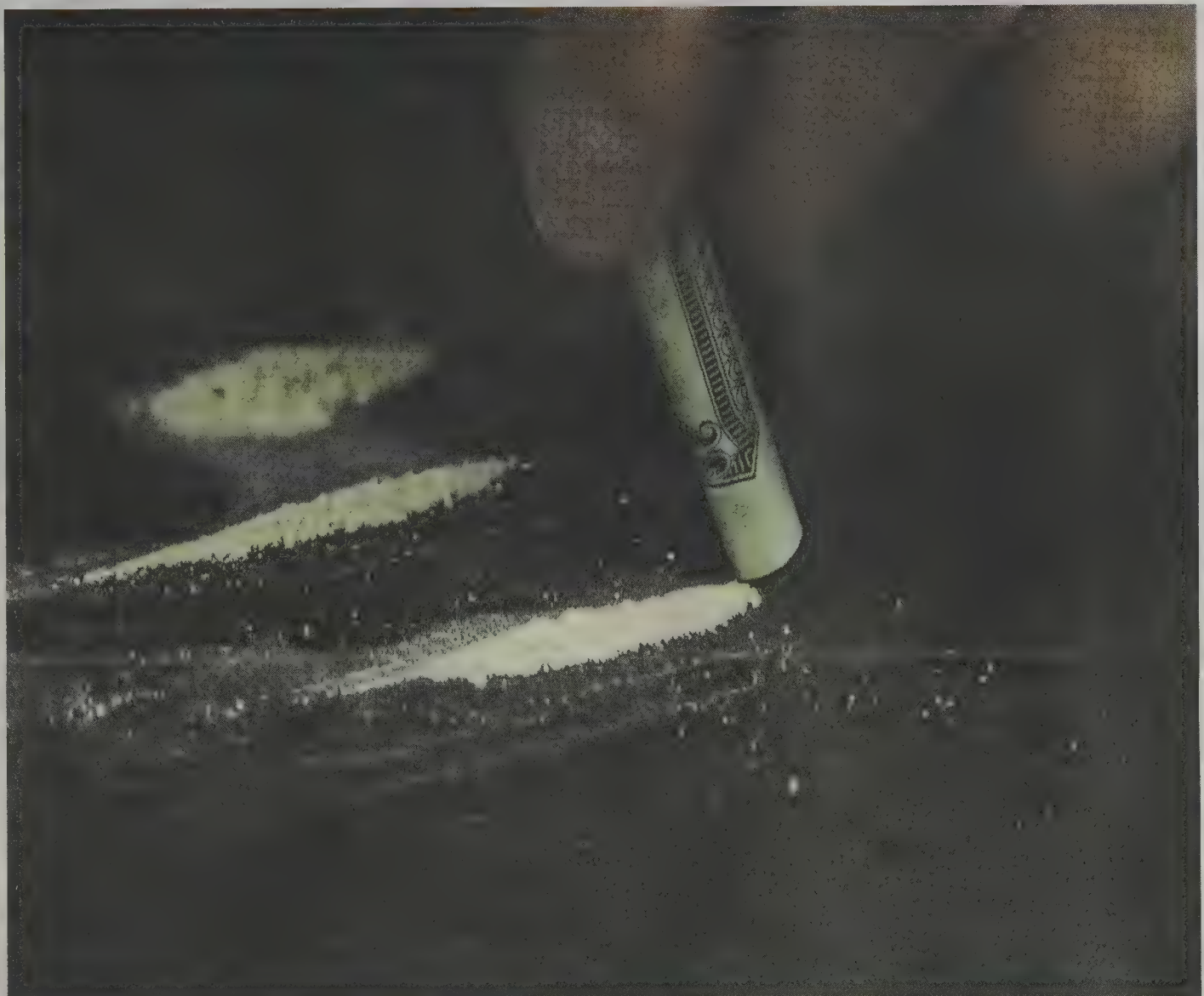
"Coke is different than Adderall," Max said. "The fact that [Adderall] can be prescribed to you means it's not as harmful. The only downside is that you don't sleep. That's the only fight you face when taking it. If the amount of people taking Adderall were doing Coke, it would be considered a huge problem."

Max is exactly the type of student Executive Director of Health and Counseling Services Gus Jordan is worried about.

"There is the notion that it is a quick fix, and that it's safe because it comes in prescription form, but you are really playing the edge if you take these drugs without proper supervision," he said. "We know that if you crush an Adderall pill, and snort it, it hits your brain in ways akin to cocaine, and with similar risks for dependence. This is such a powerful and potentially dangerous medication, that once it gets into a community and used in uncontrolled ways, people get hurt; you're participating in that by selling or giving it away, and you don't know if you will really harm someone down the road."

In his 17 years at the College, Jordan has served in a number of student life roles and taught clinical courses in the psychology department. He said that psychostimulant use and abuse has only really come onto his radar in the past five years.

"Right now, it's the hype about how great Adderall is that everybody seems to be listening to. But we don't really know what happens when this drugs is used recreationally or without a prescription. I



suspect that there are a lot of darker stories that aren't being told, especially about the addictive qualities of these drugs, tragic stories that are buried out there."

Asking Emma whether or not she would do it all over again is an impossible question for her to answer. Her views on Adderall are as complex as her usage. On one hand, she vehemently attests that without the drug, she would not be at the College. But she is acutely aware of the power the drug has, from sleepless nights to unwrapping tampon applicators time and time again.

"I think my path was necessary, but I don't know if it was the right one in hindsight. I wish I didn't have to take so much, but from trying all the other doses, nothing else really worked."

Her parents know about her use because they pay for it, but have no idea about the recreational use — "they would be shocked and really mad."

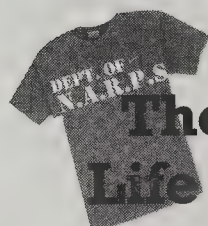
When asked whether or not she would let her kids take Adderall, she quickly said no before retracing her steps.

"Not until it got really bad, and not before the end of high school or even college. I think it's going to get banned, or at least prescribed a lot weaker, just because it is addictive and being prescribed so ubiquitously," she said. "It's just going to end badly."



**"I WISH I DIDN'T HAVE TO TAKE SO MUCH,
BUT FROM TRYING ALL THE OTHER DOSES,
NOTHING ELSE REALLY WORKED."**

Layout assistance by Hannah Bristol
Additional Reporting by Alex Edel



The Secret Life of Narps

By Izzy Fleming and Maddie Webb

It took way too long for two college-aged girls to realize that the *Middlebury Campus* is released every Thursday. In other words, here is the very delayed Throwback Thursday edition of the Secret Life of NARPs.

Ever wondered whether Maddie or Izzy have ever experienced athletic success? Or when they realized that they were “different” from the others? Well, we are going to throw it way back to a time when we were the unimaginable: ballers. Hop on board readers (hopefully we were correct in using the plural here), because it’s time for a trip down memory lane.

Scene: The playground. While the weird kids ate dirt, we NARPs were busy basking in the glory of the only athletic moments of our entire lives: on the four square court. Recess commenced, and after chugging our Juicy Juice, we crumpled the cartons and tossed the boxes of liquid courage aside. NARPs were praised for their agility within the 8x8 square and their masterful manipulation of the regulated 8.5 inch rubber red ball — because, frankly, it was impossible for Maddie to have an asthma attack in such a small arena. We lived to be crowned king in the fourth square. Whether it took an aggressive Cherry Bomb, Popcorn, or Around the World alteration on the traditional game to be praised champion, we sacrificed friendships, reputations and safety to reach the ultimate goal. Are you wondering why Izzy’s cubby buddy, Jamie McDonnell has a crooked nose? She doesn’t like to brag, but she had a wicked 3 inch vertical before a major cherry bomb one day ... and I think we all know what happened next. With the power of her favorite footwear, Heelys, Izzy’s athletic prowess reached an all-time high (those dashing bedazzled wheels made getting those hard-to-reach balls a possibility). But the day came when Izzy’s Heelys no longer fit, and Maddie’s school banned the game after countless trips to the nurse and principal’s office. With no way to develop hand-eye coordination anymore, it was merely a downhill battle from there.

The remainder of NARP childhoods were spent playing Sims (yes, we all used the money cheat), watching Boy Meets World and staring at the window at the other kids playing games like Kick the Can or heading to soccer practice in their minivans (are those still around?). For Maddie and Izzy, their only exercise came after recognizing the illustrious ringing from a nearby ice cream truck through the dialogue of a Spongebob re-run. After a quick game of hide-and-go-seek for any loose change, a car chase ensued in front of all the neighborhood children. After flagging down the driver, we got our hands on either the king-size Bomb Pop (for Izzy) or the Powerpuff Girl graphic popsicle with a gumball eye (for Maddie). The reaction to us venturing outside for momentary exercise elicited a very To Kill A Mockingbird-eque reaction from the other kids. To be clear, we were Boo Radley.

Most of these memories came flooding back to us recently as we had a moment, albeit brief, of soul searching. Why are we training for a half-marathon? Now as the schedule becomes more demanding, we realize a half-marathon is not in fact just a few laps around Battell Beach; it’s a feat we have to work for. Not only are we trying to prove to ourselves that we can accomplish something, but we are representing the NARPs and trying to prove it’s possible to others as well. For Maddie, it’s an homage to her high school gym teacher who blamed an apparently very serious “mental block” on her inability to be athletic and therefore bench press twenty pounds. In reality, she really just had the upper-arm strength of a squirrel.

There are a lot of people on campus who doubt us as well. A mutual friend explained it in terms of economics. He wasn’t going to invest in a venture in which he expected to fail, because it would be an unwise entrepreneurial move. We take on a different mentality. When it’s early on a Saturday morning and we are about ready to embark on a long run, our ability to get out of bed is simple: haters be our motivators. We want to experience what it truly feels like to cross that finish line, and we also need an excuse to make a pump-up playlist. Happy Training!

New Leadership to NOM Initiative

By Emilie Munson

On beautiful Thursday last week, I accompanied the student initiative NOM (Nutrition Outreach Mentoring) to the Boys and Girls Club of Greater Vergennes. Inside a gray building on a side street in downtown Vergennes, about 15 local teenagers chatted and played cards and video games. However, the six students who arrived from the College had a new idea of what these teens could be doing.

As part of their goal of “creating community and connecting people through food and food education,” as mentioned in their mission statement, NOM volunteers at local schools and afterschool programs to teach healthy eating and cooking habits to children and young adults.

“Children are a great focus for our group because there are a lot of fun ways to teach nutrition,” said NOM President Rachel Kinney ’16.5, who since her take over of the group last semester, has worked with Treasurer Cassidy Mueller ’16.5 and other students to revitalize the group and expand its volunteering reach. “It has a big impact when people learn about healthy eating from a young age — and an impact that can trickle up to the child’s family and larger community.”

At the Boys and Girls Club, NOM’s learning kitchen programming proved itself to be tasty and informative: NOM volunteers partnered with Boys and Girls Club teens to make fruit and vegetable smoothies. NOM volunteers opened the activity with a discussion about the vitamins and nutrients in the fruits and vegetables on the gray table we circled. Then, volunteers and teens were set loose on the ingredients, free to sample the fruits and veggies and experiment with different smoothies combinations as they chose.

My partner Ethan, 15, and I concocted three delicious smoothies. After mixing a yummy strawberry banana smoothie, Ethan was willing to try a smoothie with spinach in addition to fruit in it, although his initial reaction to the vegetable was a series of loud exclamations of “That tastes bad!” After a few gingerly sips, Ethan was willing to admit that the smoothie did a pretty good job of masking the taste of the vegetable, just as NOMs volunteers had suggested at the beginning of the activity.

As the smoothie making continued, calls of “Can I try that?” echoed around the room. Teen enthusiasm for smoothie making varied from Natalie, 14, who was willing to sample a spinach only smoothie to Kairek, 13, who would make smoothies but never drink them. I knew NOM was making a difference when Ethan told me, “This is a lot of fun! This is the most fun I’ve had at the club in a long time.”



NOM President Rachel Kinney ’16.5 helps Vergennes teen with smoothie making.

NOM also boasts other volunteering initiatives than the Boys and Girls Club. The group runs Farm to Table programming for students at Mary Hogan Elementary School in Middlebury, VT in which students get to taste-test and learn about different recipes for local produce.

“The curriculum we use teaches not just nutrition but how it applies to everyday life—something especially important in an area full of farms,” Kinney explained. “And these kids will then talk to their families about what they’ve learned, teach them how to make hummus from just a can of chickpeas, and the influence just grows from there.”

Additionally, the group participates in one-time volunteering events such as food packing and soup making for the volunteer organization Helping Overcome Poverty’s Effects (HOPE).

A large portion of NOM meetings are spent educating group members about food issues and hunger. During meetings, the group often reads and discusses articles or listens to TedX Talks to inform themselves.

“That’s part of effort to educate ourselves to be better volunteers,” Mueller said. “Although we care about this issue, we aren’t nutritionists.”

Education of NOM volunteers is especially important as NOM seeks to address the true needs of the community, not simply plant their own programming on organizations that have no need of it.

“We have to be understanding of the people that we are working with and what it is they are looking for out of the program,” Chelsea Colby ’17.5, the NOM liaison to the Boys

and Girls Club of Greater Vergennes, said. “But I think it was cool how excited some of those kids got about spinach in their smoothies. It’s just not something they’ve been exposed to.”

Youth Programs and Outreach Assistant Daniel Murphy, who brings “institutional savvy” to student groups involving mentorship has high hopes for the role NOM can fill for the community.

“They have a lot of students who both through academic and personal passion are really interested in getting out there and learning more,” Murphy said. “I would love to see them become an authority on campus for what’s already in place in the community, for what kids are getting and what the gaps are. I would love to see them become an authority about getting people who are interested in these things aware and plugged in.”

The group has set its own goals for the future: NOM hopes to increase awareness about nutrition issues on campus through workshops and speakers, continuing its existing volunteer program but also expand to include mentoring at the Addison Central Teen Center located in Middlebury, VT.

Mueller noted the benefits that participation in NOM can have for students: “I think something that is really helpful is learning how to connect with the Middlebury community which is sometimes something that is not really emphasized by the College. (...) Instead of giving money to people really far away, it is important to understand our local problems.”

Students interested in joining NOM should attend meetings at 6 p.m. in Laforce Seminar Room.

Vendela Vida to Speak at Spring Symposium

By Renee Chang

Today, the College will launch its annual Spring Student Symposium with an inaugural keynote presentation by San Francisco-based novelist Vendela Vida ’93 in the Mahaney Center for the Arts. Since graduating from the College with a degree in English and American Literatures with a Creative Writing focus, Vida has gone on to publish four novels, including a non-fiction work entitled *Girls on the Verge: Debutante Dips, Drive-bys, and Other Initiations* inspired by a class in women’s studies.

One of the organizers of the symposium and the Associate Dean for Fellowships and Research Lisa Gates believes the symposium will give students a rare taste of the diverse academic work done by their peers. The student presentations are intentionally “not organized by academic field so that a thematic

thread can connect independent research projects across academic sectors in an interesting and interdisciplinary way,” Gates said.

“One of the most empowering features of Vendela’s experience is the way in which her faculty instructors helped her believe in herself,” she said. “As young adults, students have ideas of what they want to pursue, but grapple with large and intimidating ideas in the process of reaching their goals.”

As an undergraduate who had no intention of becoming an English major, Vida cites Julia Alvarez and David Bain of the English and American Literatures department as the professors who first opened up her mind to the possibility of pursuing a career in writing fiction and non-fiction.

“I wrote a lot of short stories during my time at Middlebury and it was Julia Alvarez who encouraged me to write a novel,” Vida said. “She told me what I was trying to do

was write a novel, which at the time was a prospect I found really exciting, but also very intimidating. It was inspiring that she thought I had the capacity to write a novel.”

Currently, Vida is working on a novel that finds its genesis in a piece she authored for the “Lives” section of the *New York Times Magazine*, of which deals with her mother’s experience of growing up in Sweden.

“I always tell people that when they are starting projects, the idea they have in mind cannot be sort of interesting — or even potentially interesting — but rather all consuming,” Vida said. “I think the famous saying — write what you know — is often misunderstood by novelists. I encourage aspiring writers to not just write what they know, but to go out and experience the world. I am a big advocate of travel and placing oneself in different situations. Ultimately, five years down the line, we can draw upon the emotions of the experience and observations of other cultures.”

Students will have the opportunity to introduce themselves to Vida during the keynote reception on Thursday. A full day of student independent research presentations will kick off tomorrow at 9 a.m. in the Great Hall. Vida will also moderate “The Creative Process” panel.

In the grand scheme of the upcoming symposium, Gates urges students to embrace the spirit of the intellectual curiosity and to explore a range of independent research across a multitude of academic spheres.

“I encourage students to view the symposium as special place in which different lines of investigation can fit together in a dynamic, and ultimately inspiring way.”



Alumni and Novelist Vendela Vida’s opening lines to Spring Symposium inspire exploration.

Pruning 101: Diseased, Dead and Dumb

By Hye-Jin Kim

The next time you walk by a tree, and a dead branch does not come crashing down, knocking you off your feet, you can thank the College's Facilities Services Maintenance and Operations. As spring thaw approaches, the College's landscaping crew is busy pruning trees on campus before the snow melts and reveals quads of yellow grass and muddy shortcut eyesores that need to be dealt with.

At 8:30 a.m. on a crisp and sunny Thursday morning, I met with Horticulturist Tim Parsons, Crew Chief Jon Quelch and the rest of the landscaping crew to learn about tree pruning at the Emma Willard House. Walking from Atwater Dining Hall, the 45 degree temperature and sunny clear skies made athletic shorts and sneakers feel like a great life decision — much better than waddling around in sweatpants.

Fast forward another 30 minutes, shivering underneath the shade of trees in need of pruning and slip-n-sliding across the half-frozen lawn trying to keep up with Parsons, as he flitted from one tree to another, getting more and more excited about each one — now I understood why these men were all wearing jeans and winter jackets.

Meanwhile, Parsons was busy explaining to me why pruning is done mainly for safety and aesthetic reasons.

"In the wild, trees don't need to be pruned," he said. "I'm not saying a tree won't be healthier because of pruning, but generally we don't prune for the health of the tree, but for our own safety."

Though pruning happens naturally in the wild, this can be dangerous in the "urban forest," such as the College campus, if a dead



PAUL GERARD

Facilities prune trees using hand saws.

branch could finally give and land on a pedestrian, though Parsons admits "the chance of this happening is very slim, but still."

As he clipped off the lower branch of a young crab apple tree, Parsons explained the three D's of pruning: "Dead, Diseased and Dumb. For example, these two branches growing on top of another, competing for the same sunlight? That's dumb."

Behind the Emma Willard House, Parsons noted how "cavernous" the backyard appeared with overgrown and overhanging branches. After pruning, the backyard felt more "spacious and welcoming" to visitors.

Late winter is an ideal time to prune trees because the branches are easier to examine and handle without leaves while the temperatures aren't as cold and harsh. Some little critters also appreciate this timing.

"Because we prune in the winter for the most part, there are no birds in the nests," said Parsons.

But not all little critters leave their nests empty.

"There was a subcontractor that was doing some tree work on a tree down at the Kitchel House, and a squirrel ran three feet above his head, and ran down into the limb he was on. It was a hollow limb and he couldn't get the squirrel out to save his life. He didn't want to work on the tree because he was scared he would hurt the squirrel. So, he was waiting for the longest time for that squirrel to leave because he didn't want to hurt it."

Parsons also showed me the three main tools used in pruning. For smaller trees, hand pruners are used. Parsons own several pruners, which he hand-sharpened at the end of every winter pruning season. For medium-sized to large trees, hand saws are used. For even larger trees, pole-saws are the tool of choice.

"The pole-saw," he pointed out, "has a fitting name." Picture a hand saw stuck on top of a long, re-tractable pole.

Hand saws are the most commonly used, especially in conjunction with the tree climbing method. Workers climb trees, secured by a special rope on a limb, and prune within the branches. According to Parsons, there haven't been any accidents (knock on wood).

"As long as you go slow and think carefully about what you're doing, climbing with a rope is a safe way to prune trees."

For Buzz, a member of Facilities Services, who learned to climb trees just last winter, the shift to pruning as the days get warmer "breaks up the long cold winter, especially this year, when we did a lot of shoveling.

From up there [in the tree], it's a whole different view."

Some crew members, like Groundsworker Steve Rheume, have been climbing for over 10 years.

"You can probably learn to climb a tree [using the rope] in a day or so, but it could take you 12 years to get as good as Steve."

Rheume was busy climbing and pruning when we stopped by, but he shouted down at us, "It's a good workout; you definitely break a sweat! The highest tree I've ever climbed was 25, maybe 30 feet."

As a photographer tried to get Parsons to pose next to the tree being pruned, he pointed at Rheume and said, "Well, he would be the star, here. Doesn't that look like fun?"

During my Pruning 101 session, Parsons also pointed out some of his favorite trees on campus, including what he believes is the oldest tree, a huge sprawling 80-foot Bur Oak right by the CFA. Insisting it was worth seeing in person, Parsons offered to drive me down to take a look. I've always wanted to ride one of those green John Deere tractors and who wouldn't want to see a tree that was alive at the same time as George Washington, so of course, I jumped at the chance.

"How fast does this thing go?" I asked as the motor hummed.

"A lot faster than I'm allowed to drive it." He chuckled.

Parsons is not sure exactly how old the Bur Oak is.

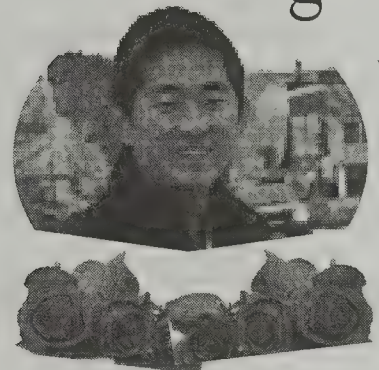
"I'd say 200 years or more. The only real way to age a tree is to count the rings, and to do that, you have to use a special bore technique or cut down the tree and count the rings. I'm not willing to do either on this tree. But, this has been here at least as long as the school, if not more. It is spectacular."

When asked about pruning an old specimen like this, he said, "You can see all the dead wood here, there's a large piece of dead [wood] right there that would have to come off. But for the most part, when trees are this old, they don't need anything."

Parsons hopes the Bur Oak has another 200 years, but knows this might be far-fetched. Health-wise, though, the tree seems to be in good shape.

"There's not a lot of dead [branches], it has a lot of nice young shoots, new twigs, it's still putting out a decent amount of growth this year," he said. Though 200 might be unrealistically long, Parsons believes the tree will stick around for a long time.

Dining, Dating & Dashing



By Ryan Kim

Middlebury students are connected by no more than two degrees of separation: you either know someone or know someone who knows that person. Though there are many great things about this smallness, I always thought it presented a romantic disadvantage.

The main reason: the gossip-mongering that roars into life at Sunday brunch. I didn't mind hearing about others' travails, conquests and failures. I just dreaded being the topic of conversation. So I did what I think most of us do: I built an emotional bunker, sheltered from the embarrassments of casual romance.

I never hoped to squat in this self-imposed "shelter" alone. I preferred the security of solitude to the risks active pursuit, searching for someone whom I might never find, whom I might find only to be ruthlessly rejected by. This school is too small; any rejection would effectively be public. Beyond the indignity of seemingly everyone knowing about my failure, I would be consigned to awkward run-ins until one of us finally goes abroad or graduates.

My limited, slanted consideration of only the potential downsides left me preferring passivity. I reasoned, something will happen if it's meant to. After all, it never rains on the man who stays indoors.

But the sun never shines on the man who stays indoors. I changed my mind: sitting in my bunker waiting for a perfect relationship to bust through the boarded window is insane. The truth is that if I want to date, I've got to be proactive. Even if my fears of the small-school rumor mill are legitimate, I stand to lose most if I let those fears inhibit me.

There will always be convenient excuses to blame our dateless evenings. At a certain point, we each individually bear the responsibility of overcoming these minor adversities. In the case of this particular excuse, that "Middlebury is too small", we have the chance to reframe the matter. This school isn't too small, it's fortuitously "not too big".

The truth is, we don't actually know everyone on campus. Certainly, I know a lot of names but I don't actually know much about the individuals themselves. What's more, the reality is that the people you're most likely to date are neither close friends nor complete strangers, but loose associations. Our lives here are blessed with a preponderance of date-potential acquaintances.

My friends at bigger schools have resorted to matchmaking apps like Tinder. Even here, nearly a quarter of Middkids have registered profiles on Friendsy (although many may be curiosity-serving, but functionally defunct like mine). The difference, though, is that we don't have to rely on services like Friendsy to find people of interest. We have the chance to use Middlebury's smallness to our romantic advantage.

Consider the notion that our community's insularity might be a blessing in disguise. You don't meet wonderful women only to have them dissolve back into the labyrinth of New York City; you get plenty of chances to see them again. Ask a friend for an introduction. We can only win if when we take on a little risk.

Creativity Shines at MiddChallenge

By Brittany Thomas

What do cheese, 3D visualization goggles, epi-pens, cowgirls and undocumented college students have in common? Not much more than the shared evidence of the creativity students will be pursuing this summer, with the help of grants awarded by MiddChallenge. On April 4 and 6, nine finalists presented their project ideas to a panel of judges, made up of many college alumni and Vermont professionals, in the categories of Business, Arts and Outreach.

After two days of thoughtful presentations, five projects were selected to receive a \$3,000 grant, the support of an advisor network and space at the Old Stone Mill. MiddChallenge is one of several programs under the umbrella of the Middlebury's Project on Creativity and Innovation (PCI), which seeks to encourage students' independent and inventive projects on campus.

The presenters surprised all with their preparation, foresight and diversity of interests. Joanie Thompson '14, a member of the student MiddChallenge Committee, appreciated the outcome of months of planning.

"My favorite thing is always seeing how different the projects are," Thompson said. "It's the variety that I love, and it shows a wonderful side to people, when they present on something they are incredibly invested in."

In the business category, Nate Beatty '13.5 received a grant for his start-up, Iris VR, Inc. The company will develop software, to be paired with emerging stereoscopic 3D head mounted displays — "like ski goggles, with two eyes and a screen on the inside," to help architects virtually imagine the re-

alities of their spaces, before construction. Beatty will use his grant to hire a student intern — still accepting applications — to assist in the development process this summer.

"It's all about virtual reality now," he said. "It's exciting, because I think if we started the project right now, we would be too late. We hit the timing, hopefully, just right. We're riding the wave of this virtual reality buzz."

Other winners in the business category include Linda Waller '15.5, designing a wearable Epi-Pen, and Linnea Burnham '14.5, making cheese and sharing the value of sustainable farming at Robinson Hill Farm.

In the arts category, "Cowgirls: A Documentary" won a grant to explore, through film, the identity of cowgirls in the cowboy-dominated culture of the American West. Anna Carroll '14.5 and Ben Kramer '13.5 will direct the project, with collaboration by Sarah Briggs '14.5, Katie McFarren '14, Tommy Hyde '14.5, Tito Heiderer '14.5 and Maddy Lawler '14. The cinematographers will follow cowgirls, Claudia Ogilvie and Patty Hayes, on a 100-mile horseback ride through South Dakota. Their documentary promises to be insightful portrayal of the friendship between two women, who have followed similar paths in breeding and training horses, and who will reunite on camera, after five years apart.

Finally, in the outreach category, Daniel Ramirez '17 received a grant for his project, Documented Dreams, to build a social network where undocumented high school students can receive mentoring and ad-

vice from undocumented college students. Ramirez believes that undocumented college students are outliers, able to pursue their education only because of unusual relationships — like that which his brother gave to him and which he has given to his mentee, recently accepted to the College's class of 2018.

MiddChallenge provides students valuable practice in developing an idea, checking its viability and planning for its implementation. Charlie MacCormack, Executive in Residence and former CEO of Save the Children, applauded the participants for their apparent dedication.

"I've come to have high expectations for the quality and importance and practicality of the ideas," MacCormack said. "But this year did exceed my expectations, because all presentations were genuinely outstanding, and really could have been made by very experienced people, with professional degrees."

The presenters similarly appreciated value of the judges' feedback, in shaping how they will progress with their projects. With summer just around the corner, MiddChallenge provided a springboard from which the grant recipients can jump into their projects with enthusiasm and financial and mental support.

"I am extremely honored to be the recipient of a MiddChallenge grant and I want to thank the PCI, student organizers, and the funders for pulling together a great event," Burnham said. "I look forward to this summer because, thanks to MiddChallenge, I will be able to turn my business plan into a reality."

Style Icon: Michaelcheck is "Woody Allen in Drag"

By Mary Claire Ecclesine

College is famously known and remembered as "the best years of our lives." Four (or more) years to explore, experiment, learn and find ourselves, so that we can (hopefully) sort out our passions and plan our futures — including the development and cultivation of our own signature style.

I realized the value and significance of these years and their impact on our individual future in fashion when interviewing Charlotte Michaelcheck '15. Michaelcheck was born and raised in New York City, attending school in Manhattan before venturing to the Green Mountains. Most people either know Michaelcheck for her improv skills (she is a member of Middlebrow), her quirky collection of backpacks, her dedication to her neuroscience major or her bold, outrageous "going out outfits," as she calls them.

Michaelcheck refers to her style as, "all over the place."

"Sometimes I look like Woody Allen in drag," she said. "And then other [times], very skimpy 90's." Whatever you know her for, we all can recognize that this girl has got personality, style, confidence and brains — and it seems to run in her family.

Michaelcheck's wisdom in fashion is rooted and influenced greatly by her mother and sister. Her sister is a New York City-based fashion designer considered a rising star among high fashion experts. In addition to her sister's incredible success in fashion, Michaelcheck's mother "has always been adept at putting herself together." Those two women "veto most of my choices so that

any resultant style is mostly a product of abject constructive criticism I'd say."

Even though Michaelcheck has a distinct style, she is still figuring out who she is and how she wants to be portrayed. When asked about where her look will end up, Michaelcheck said, "I have some things I know I will hold onto and others I really hope to lose — at this point that ratio's probably more in favor of the latter." But for right now she hopes to portray herself in a versatile way.

"When I feel well dressed it's mostly in something that's at least in part conservative," she said. "When I dress to go out or for more casual purposes I almost never consider it to be fashionable. I want to feel confident in what I wear, even if it isn't necessarily a good outfit."

Michaelcheck isn't afraid to stray away from what is "fashionable" for something that makes her feel good — and isn't that what is ultimately most important? Fashion is fun and exciting but if it doesn't make you feel self-assured then it is simply a materialistic form of expression. That is why Michaelcheck goes the extra step when it comes to her selection of clothing.

"People pick out clothing usually in anticipation for some event or a new season," she said. "So in that aspect, fashion is positively associated with fun things or something you're looking forward to. It's another, maybe superfluous, preparation step that makes otherwise not so enthralling events a little more exciting. Especially when costumes are involved: the more ridiculous the better."

Interestingly enough, a girl with such a natural ability to express herself through clothing does not believe that fashion is fundamental to a person's

character.

"I never really focused on fashion," she said. Michaelcheck approaches fashion in a lighter hearted way, dressing up to simply please herself as opposed to make a statement.

"If someone wants to wear something that isn't necessarily in keeping with what the rest of the population is doing, I think they should. If it's a form of self-expression, great, if you just want to wear something ridiculous for attention, that's fine too."

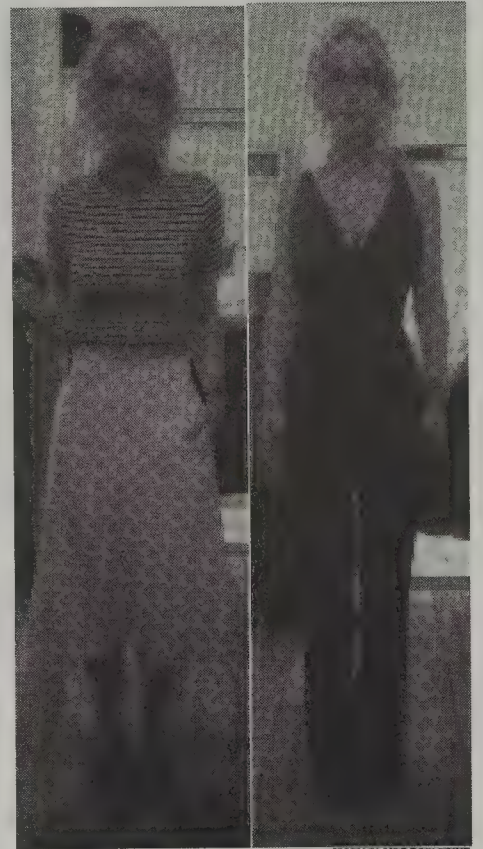
After her years in the mountains, Michaelcheck plans to get rid of some of her more revealing garb as she gets older.

"At some point it just gets ridiculous, or tired," she said. "Hopefully I will accrue some things that last a little longer and can be worn in most public settings (which cannot be said for much of what I currently own)."

In the future Charlotte also aspires to follow her mother's footsteps in her classic uniform attire, meaning that she wears a basic framework for every outfit that is always the same but changes the details so that every look is somewhat unique but still honest.

"My mother does that with button downs and straight leg black pants. Her closet is the best because it's filled with different variations of the same structured outfit. For me, I think that's the ideal."

Middlebury may be a difficult place to try out outrageous things in the fashion realm, simply because fashion is not that prevalent on campus, but at least there is no pressure to be up-to-date on all the trends. College is a transitional stage between high school and the real



Improv actor Charlotte Michaelcheck '15 displays her quirky sense of style.

world—on one hand it's your chance to wear what you will never be able to again, but on another hand, it's also the place and time to develop your own style and cultivate a wardrobe. Even if you are like Michaelcheck and "still in transition," keep trying new things, go out of your comfort zone and put time and effort into fostering a wardrobe that you are proud of.

Students Discuss Righteous Action and Empathy

By Winston Kies

On April 2, a motley crew of professors, students and local denizens came together to share in a discussion titled "Acting Righteously in Times of Danger."

The event sought to spark conversation regarding two key questions: "When others are threatened in times of danger, what is it that moves us to act courageously on their behalf and risk our own safety and those closest to us?" and "How do we foster tolerance, understanding, empathy and courage?"

To help guide the exploration of such nebulous — and fundamental — questions, the audience was first given an exceptional anecdote from the film "Two Who Dared," whose chosen center is on Martha and Waitstill Sharp, two Americans "who played a vital role in saving hundreds from persecution during World War II." As one might expect, any literal comparison between the Sharps' life and that of most Middlebury students would be unfair.

However, when attention turned to-

wards the values that guided the Sharps, an enlightening and applicable conclusion was reached. As one of the older participants said, "If Middlebury students want to spread the values they hold dear, they must first devote themselves to those ideals in the day-to-day, the mundane. This isn't a new thought, but it is underappreciated."

The Sharps' lives were, above all else, defined by an unwavering devotion to virtue. In "Two Who Dared," one of the main points of emphasis was that Waitstill and Martha Sharp were the 18th choice for relief volunteers. The 17 previous ministers declined for understandable reasons: young children, a job and a stable life. The Sharps were different. Waitstill often used the word "must" while describing why he and Martha made the decision to go on both of the two missions, the first to Prague and the second to Southern France during the German invasion. They had two young children, a stable job and a stable life, yet Waitstill continued to use that decisive word. The discussion group

had some trouble with this — why must they leave their children? Why must they give up their lives when there were those who were better equipped?

One attendee saw the reasoning to be simple, remarking, "It's a matter of holding true to your virtues. It seemed as though they — Waitstill especially — didn't see a choice. If they didn't live by the idea of absolute equality in every action then they just couldn't be equipped to create equality."

Although this sentiment did not hit home with some in the room — seeing as much of the space was filled with mothers and fathers — many believed it could very well be the Sharps' perspective. In either case, Waitstill and Martha had an undeniable impact. During these two tours, the Sharps helped over one hundred refugees find safety and security, and were "recognized by the state of Israel as Righteous Among the Nations for risking their lives to save Jews and dissidents during the Holocaust."

The Sharps' story is an extreme one. Leaving one's children in their most formative years for a potentially life-threatening mission is not something most parents feel they "must do." It is certainly not something any student can fully appreciate at this point in their lives. As such, much of the conversation turned towards the realm of moral take-aways rather than literal ones. The take-away: it is the little choices we make every day that create real change, not implausible end goals.

Seeing as the College's Board of Trustees have outwardly lauded the College as the first global liberal arts institution, it seems as though its students

would be some of the best at enacting sweeping change.

But one student solemnly asked, "How can we consider ourselves to be the best equipped if many of us don't stand by the virtues of equality and fairness when we don't respect something as small as peer proctoring?"

For a student, one of the most common "little choices" is to respect the tradition of peer proctoring. Although it may not seem comparable to the idea of gender equality, for example, it is less a matter of the topic and more about the fundamental value driving any sort of change.

"Even at a school like Middlebury, the most important class is that of the students 'walking the walk.'"

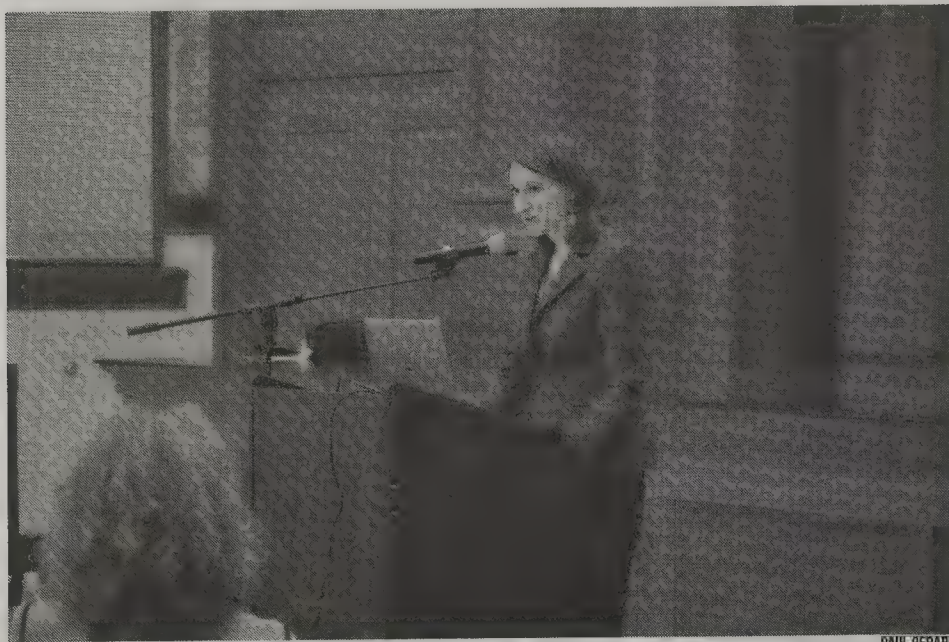
MARIA HATJIGEORGIOU
LECTURER IN RELIGION AND GSFS

As Lecturer in Religion and GSFS Maria Hatjigeorgiou stated after the discussion, "Even at a school like Middlebury, the most important class is that of the students 'walking the walk.'"

That is to say, it is not enough to learn what equality is; it must also

practice such virtues on a day-to-day and moment-to-moment basis. To this sentiment, Adrian Leong '16 added, "Being virtuous does not have to be known all the time: we delude ourselves to think that until a grand goal is reached, our efforts are without worth."

By the conclusion of the discussion and event as a whole, a consensus of sorts was reached. Students at the College, like all students, teachers and human beings, are shaped by our daily interactions with the world. Although something as uncelebrated as taking peer proctoring seriously is not "acting righteously in a time of danger," it equips students to spark just as much change as any class or peer-proctored exam.



Sabine Gagenier leads discussion about how to act righteously in daily life at the College.

ARTS & SCIENCES

The Middlebury Campus

Musical Players Present Rock Musical *RENT*

By Leah Lavigne

Following the highly anticipated J-term production of *Les Misérables*, members of the College community will have another opportunity to enjoy a popular piece of musical theater when the Middlebury College Musical Players (MCMP) presents its spring term musical, *RENT*, at the Town Hall Theatre from April 17-19.

As a contrast to the faculty-assisted J-term show, MCMP is in their eighteenth year of presenting completely student-designed, directed, acted and produced musical theater, and currently puts on two musicals each academic year. Recent shows have included *City of Angels*, *Midd-Life Crisis* and *Man of La Mancha*, and this spring's production employs the talents of fifteen student actors, five orchestra musicians and a production team comprised of Assistant Director Sally Seitz '17, Music Director York Kitajima '15 and Director Jack DesBois '15.

DesBois joined MCMP in the fall of 2012 when he acted and assisted in the lighting design of *City of Angels*. He returned to direct the spring 2014 show.

DesBois and MCMP President Erica Furgiuele '15, Vice President Hannah Johnston '15 and Treasurer Annie MacPherson '16 collaborated to decide which musical to stage.

"While *City of Angels* was a really great show, it was relatively unknown, and because of that we did have trouble finding people to get involved with it," DesBois said. "So, this year we decided that we would choose a popular show, and we decided on *RENT* — partially because this is my first time directing and I wanted to do a show that I was already familiar with. As it turns out, that's been quite helpful."

Additionally, *RENT*'s even distribution of male and female roles proved helpful in combating the typical scarcity of female roles in musical theater.

Eight main characters comprise composer and lyricist Jonathan Larson's rock musical adaptation of Giacomo Puccini's 1896 opera *La bohème*, following a group of impoverished young artists and musicians as they struggle to live and create in New York City's Lower East Side under the shadow of the 1980s and '90s HIV/AIDS epidemic.

RENT experienced a meteoric rise to fame after premiering at the New York Theatre Workshop in 1994, eventually moving off-Broadway where it was a massive hit, especially with younger generations, and won a Pulitzer Prize for Drama in 1996.

In that year, the show debuted on Broadway and catapulted into national attention, winning the Tony Award for Best Musical and eventually becoming the tenth-longest running Broadway show in history at the time of the production's closing in 2008. *RENT* also includes the classic Broadway anthem "Seasons of Love," which crossed over to enjoy success on pop and rock charts.

The original Broadway production served as the launching pad for many now-legendary Broadway performers, including Taye Diggs, Adam Pascal and Wicked and *Frozen* star Idina Menzel. These individual successes are just snapshots of the greater legacy of the musical, which lives on in a 2005 film version featuring most of the original cast, a live taping of the final 2008 performance and national tours and subsequent productions in 46 countries and 24 languages.

DesBois' history with *RENT* includes a viewing on Broadway and creative participation in multiple productions. This familiarity has allowed DesBois an ease

with the material that inspires original interpretation.

"One of the ways I've tried to put my stamp on the show is by giving it a kind of rough-cut feel by having no curtains," he said. "This is typical for the show; but usually when there are curtains, the actors will be hanging out behind watching what is going on onstage, and we're still going to have those actors hanging out there in complete view."

The breathtaking, refreshing rock melodies and complex characters of *RENT* have allowed the musical to endure almost 20 years after its New York premier, and the themes of community and friendship amidst hardship make the show accessible even to those who usually do not identify as fans of the musical theater genre.

"We recently had our first music rehearsal integrating the band and the cast, and when they came to 'Goodbye Love,' there was this really great moment when all the voices were singing, and I realized that this really is going to happen," DesBois said, "These surreal moments are happening more and more."

Health struggles threatened to set the production back after DesBois was forced to take J-term off for sick leave, but Kitajima ran music rehearsals to avoid losing time, priming the cast for upcoming blocking sessions when DesBois returned in the spring. Further health events caused more cancellations just before spring break, but the musical has managed to stay on schedule with only a week left until show time.

DesBois' passion for the material that has consumed his life in recent months is palpable.

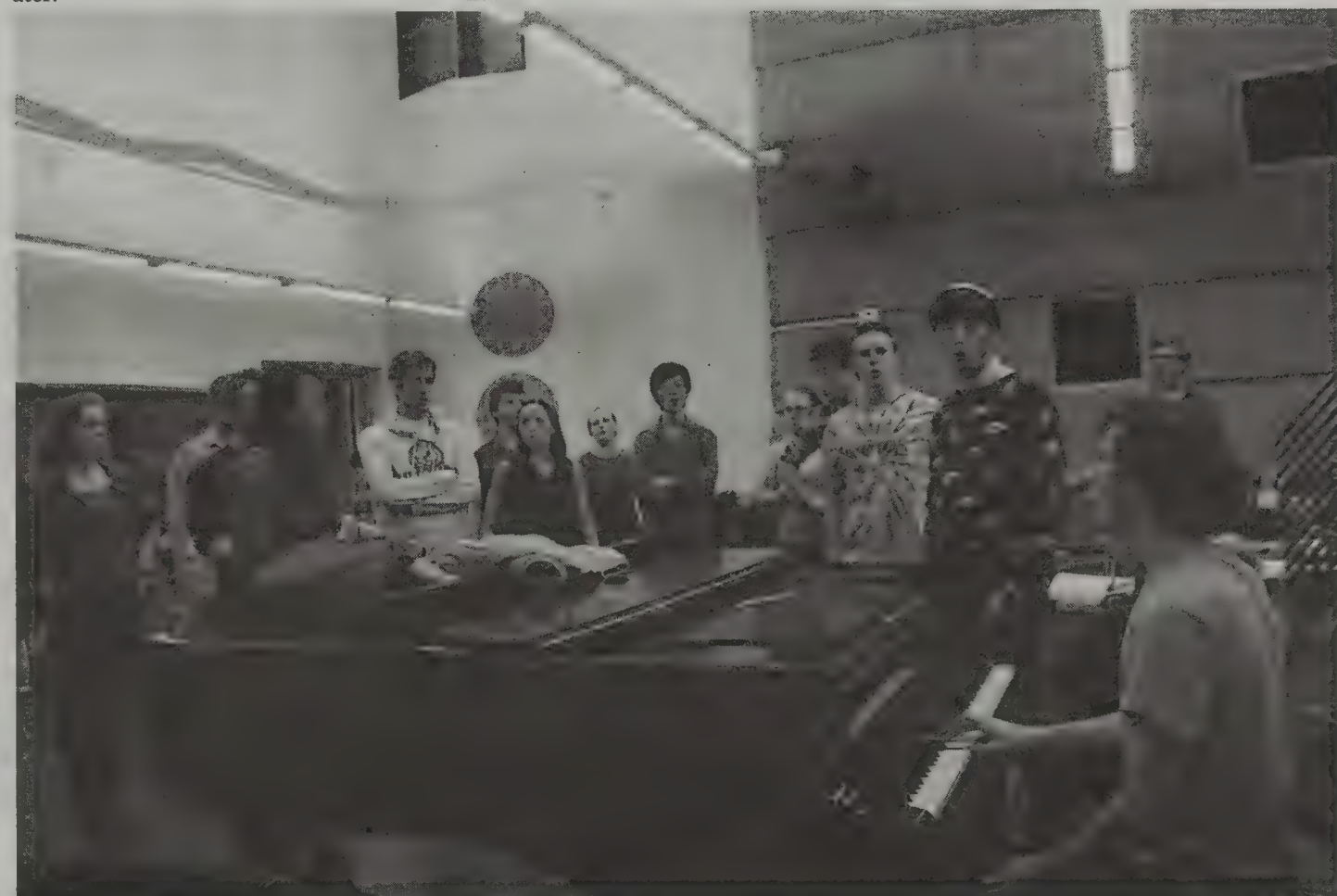
"*RENT* is one of those shows that is very close to my heart, and the themes are so universal and uplifting that I feel that you can't come away from this show not smiling," he said. "The cast is great, the music is going to be amazing, and it's going to be a really good quality show."

Tickets are available through the Box Office and at go.middlebury.edu/measureinlove, and are selling fast. Each of the three performances on April 17-19 will be presented at 8 p.m. at The Town Hall Theatre.



JIVA PANIYA

Mike Hendrickson '14 as Roger and David Fine '17 as Mark collaborate in rehearsal.



JIVA PANIYA

Director Jack DesBois '15 directs a warmup of "For Doug" with the *RENT* cast in preparation for their upcoming performances.

**DON'T
MISS
THIS**

The Swing Express

The Swing Club welcomes the audience on a journey through the decades with tunes ranging from Frank Sinatra to Bill Haley and the Comets. Tickets are \$5 for students through the Box Office. All proceeds profit The Charter House.

4/11, 8 P.M., MCCULLOUGH SOCIAL SPACE

Lore

The next selection in the Hirschfield International Film Series follows five siblings on a trek from their home in southwest Germany to the north for refuge as the Allies begin to arrive in 1945. The eldest, fourteen-year-old Lore, must lead her family on the harrowing journey. Free.

4/12, 3 AND 8 P.M., DANA AUDITORIUM

Beauty and the Baritone

Erica Furgiuele '15 and Mike McCann '15 perform an evening of songs ranging from classical opera to musical theatre as a culmination of their independent projects in vocal technique and repertoire this semester. Composers include Henry Purcell, John Musto and George Gershwin. Sponsored by the Department of Music. Free.

4/12 8 P.M., CFA, CONCERT HALL

Clockwork Orange Promises Excitement

By Mthobisi Sibandze

On the surface, *A Clockwork Orange* is a standard dystopian text, in the same line as classics such as Huxley's *Brave New World*. It is complete with suitably wicked teenage males, beautiful young women and gratuitous violence. It is not so simple though; it is an intricate work. It is freedom and choice, not violence, teenage rebellion, good and evil, social pathology, nor high adventure that is at the heart of this work.

Written by Anthony Burgess, *A Clockwork Orange* was first published in 1962 and then adapted into a film by Stanley Kubrick in 1971. The film was a success and, despite being quite controversial, it has become iconic. Burgess felt that the film glorified sex and violence in a manner that detracted attention from the core theme of his novella — choice. So repulsed was Burgess that, in response to it, he published a revised version in 1987 which focused the lens more on his core theme of choice. It is this central message that Visiting Assistant Professor of Theatre Andrew W. Smith '97.5 has aimed to capture in directing the College's production, an adaptation of the novella scheduled to be performed on Thursday, Friday and Saturday April 10-12.

"It is everything that you want theatre to be," Smith said. "It's stylistic, full of action and great choreographed sequences, full of a lot of heart and passion. There is a lot of music, light and a sense of pageantry. There is a whole lot to it."

Smith believes that part of the reason he selected *A Clockwork Orange* as the text for the production is that it is an expressionist piece and he is interested in that style and the creativity that it inherently brings to the process and, ultimately, the product.

"Expressionism is a certain kind of style that, in essence, tells the story

through the eyes of the main character," he said. "Many of the stylistic choices have to do with how the other characters interact with him, or what they are blocking. Their behavior or actions are filtered through the lens of what it feels like to the main character [Alex]. That was certainly a point of interest in choosing the novella for the script," said Smith.

The production's aim is not just to convey the central message, but to lead to discussion and ask questions.

"I really believe and appreciate theatre that asks questions more than provide answers and that is what I am hoping will happen with this show," Smith said.

While choice is the main message, Smith is aware of the intrinsic violence in the story but urges the audience to be alert to the distinction between the film and the novella.

"It is everything you want theatre to be. It's stylistic, full of action and great choreographed sequences, full of a lot of good questions and full of a lot of heart and passion."

—ANDREW W. SMITH '97.5
VISITING ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF THEATER

not to underplay the value of the text itself which has a very high level of poetry to it."

Language is certainly a prominent feature of the text because it uses Nasdat, which is an invented language created by Anthony Burgess.

"It [Nasdat] is essentially a mixture of Russian and English, which, at the time up to this, are the two most politically powerful languages," Smith said. "The result is a very poetical language."

The political significance of merging these two languages, given the context of the political tension that existed when the novella was written, is unmistakable to anyone familiar with the history of the Cold War. The use of Nasdat is even more important within the story because it is

an impenetrable language spoken by the youth. It is incomprehensible to judges, government and all forms of authority in whatever guise that they are presented.

Smith is working with a total of 28 talented actors, stage manager Katie Preston '17, assistant stage managers Adam Rivera '17 and Aashna Aggarwal '16, and between 15 and 20 students in technical supporting roles.

A lot of time went into making the production possible.

"We rehearse every day for the maximum number of hours possible, which is an average of 24 hours a week," Smith said.

As the performance date looms ever nearer, the cast and crew have been rehearsing for an average of 30 hours a week.

"The time commitment is truly impressive," he said.

Steven Medina '17, one of the actors, conveyed excitement for the upcoming performances. He expressed that his sense of drive is predicated on working with a group of people that care for and supportive of each other, as well as his ardent love for theater.

"Honestly, we are all thrilled to be to-

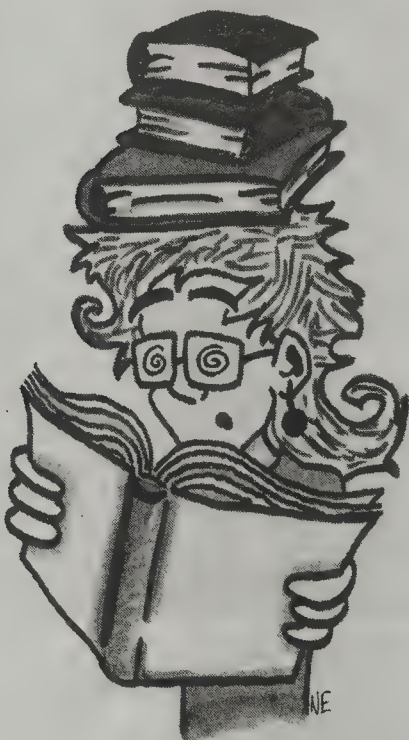


Actors Kean Haunt '17, Leah Sarbib '15.5, Adam Milano '15 and Kevin Cammarn '16.

BOOKING IT

BY ALI LEWIS

Forgive me, psych majors, if I am wrong in this, but I seem to recall learning in my psych disorders class two years ago about several studies which proved that the life-outlook of individuals suf-



fering from depression is not, in fact, overly pessimistic, but rather realistic compared to the realities of probability. Psychologically "healthy" individuals, by contrast, tend to be overly optimistic in

their predictions for the future. That is, according to these studies, if individuals with and without depression were asked to predict whether or not they would get a job in the first year after college, the depressed individuals would more likely be correct.

Whether or not this is actually true, we could certainly make a case for all the terrible things happening across the world everyday which we choose to ignore, as well as the terrifying existential questions which we usually put out of our minds, and say that on the whole, day to day, most of us are choosing to live in blissful ignorance. We could, of course, make the case in the other direction—that overall we ignore most of the beauty and the miracles of life (I mean, I am not a science major, so the fact that our brains can heal from trauma and that plants know to grow upwards out of the soil and that the universe is expanding and folding in on itself at the same time— all of that feels like a miracle to me, but call it what you will).

However, Ben Marcus, author of the new short-story collection *Leaving the Sea* released this January by Knopf Publishing, is most certainly of the former opinion. A narrator in his story "Watching Mysteries with My Mother" notices that the families of individuals with terminal illness insist that their loved one is "a fighter"; she will be the one to "beat

the odds." But "odds should be odds, and they should never be beaten," he writes. "If they are, then the odds are incorrect and should be changed." Later he recognizes that his mother's odds of dying are increasing at every moment as she ages. "Right now, sleeping in her bed, she has never in her entire life been in greater danger of dying."

The moral, I guess, would be that life is often more arbitrary and unpleasant than we would like to think, which is possibly the only certitude standing behind the characters of Marcus's stories,

fifteen middle-aged male protagonists who seem painfully aware of the fact that their lives are not at all turning out as they would have hoped. Marcus,

the author of three novels including *The Flame Alphabet* and the winner of three Pushcart Prizes, finds his own place among such bleakly sardonic storytellers as Kafka, Beckett and the Coen brothers. His characters are often pathetic, utterly failing to communicate and disgusted with the shortcomings of language and of their own bodies. If they happen to fall in love, it is "through several mutual misunderstandings."

The stories begin in a familiar and disappointing modern world — a divorced dad finds his cubicle at work overtaken by interns, a middle-aged son watches British mystery-dramas on PBS and cannot forget about his mother's

mortality. Marcus's voice feels grippingly vivid and current; he doesn't try anything fancy with his sentences (save for one sentence which goes on for six pages yet miraculously manages not to be annoying). Here and there, Marcus points out small sensations of daily existence which we might never before have noticed.

As his stories progress, the recognizable world and the forms of language themselves begin to dissolve, and the characters waver between struggling to survive and wishing to disappear. The reader is left alone without sign posts, only grounded in the recurrent rhythms of the stories and in the glimpses of suggestion which make these wildly violent dystopias seem strangely similar to the reality we swim in every day. "We know nothing about the future," the characters of one story remember from a sort of gymnasium turned bomb-shelter — "we know very little for sure at all."

The reader is as lost as the characters, and often frustrated and exhausted by the tediums of the everyday and by the devastating awareness that human life might be nothing more than a mistake. "I would have gills," thinks one of the narrators, "if I were something better that had never tried to leave the sea." But one keeps reading, I think, because every so often, even as Thomas inches for what feels like a thousand years worth of overwrought anxiety down the office hallway towards the beautiful, indifferent colleague at the coffee cart — every so often, one miraculously finds a moment of peace.

LEAVING THE SEA

by Ben Marcus



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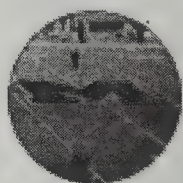
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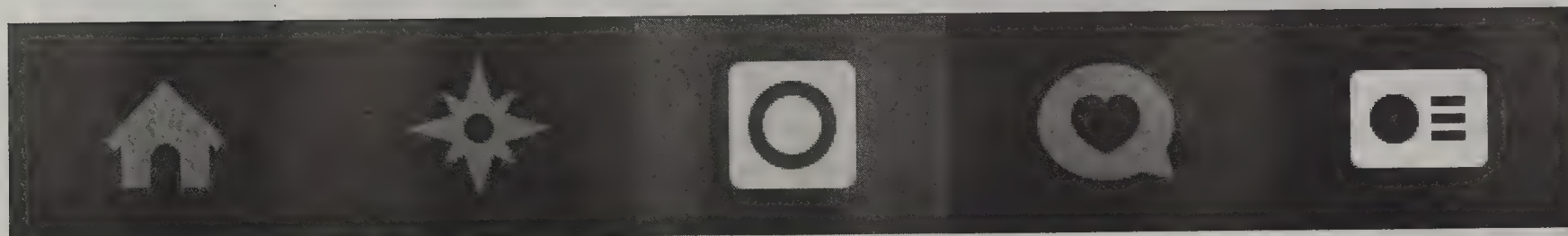
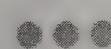
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Comment



Track Teams Hit Early-Season Stride

By Fiona Maloney-McCrystle

Like several other spring sports teams, the Middlebury track team began its outdoor schedule over Spring Break with two meets at Point Loma Nazarene University in San Diego, CA, competing against a variety of West Coast schools in a pair of meets. Upon returning to the Northeast, the Panthers continued their season on Saturday, April 5 in a dual meet at Springfield, handing in a decisive victory on both the men's and women's sides.

The first meet at Point Loma, the Ross and Sharon Irwin Meet, on March 22, brought an exciting start to the season when Lauren Pincus '14 broke the school record in the javelin, a mark that had stood for thirteen years. Pincus's toss of 140' 9", good for a second place finish in the event, beat out the existing mark of 139' 11".

"I took last year off to recover from elbow reconstructive surgery, so my main goal for the season was to successfully return to competing for the team," Pincus said of her season. "I was surprised and thrilled when I realized I had broken the school record. It was the ideal way to start the season. It is extremely difficult to obtain those sorts of long distance throws in cold and windy Vermont, so it was important to me to take advantage of the warm California weather and get a distance that would hopefully qualify me for NCAAAs. I'm excited to keep improving throughout the season, and hopefully break my own record a few more times."

Other standouts for the Panthers included the trio of top-five finishes in the 1500 meters from Erzsie Nagy '17, Alison Maxwell '15 and Summer Spillane '15, who took second, third and fourth, respectively.

For the men, Wilder Schaaf '14.5 took home the victory in the 1500 meters, where he ran a time of 3:54.78, while Jake Wood '15 took second in the 400 hurdles in 55.87 and Kevin Chu '14 took fourth in the 110 hurdles in 15.48.

The following Saturday, Mar. 29, the Panthers were back in action at the Point Loma Invitational. On the men's side, Schaaf once again turned in a solid performance, taking second in the 800 meters in a time of 1:55.53, Wood saw another successful weekend in the 400 hurdles when he crossed the line in first with a time of 55.21.

In the field events, Jason McCallum '14 took home the victory in the pole vault with his mark of 14' 11", also taking second on the track with a time of 10.98 in the 100 meters.

Kevin Wood '15 also produced a decisive victory on a day that brought many high finishes for the Panther squad, winning the 5,000 meters with a time of 14:54.16.

On the women's side, Hannah Blackburn '17 finished with a trio of top five results on the day, taking third in both the long and triple jumps and fourth in the 100 hurdles. Spillane took second in the 3000-meter steeplechase with a time of 11:15.82, with Panther teammates behind her in third, fourth and fifth.

Not to be outdone, Pincus followed up her record-breaking performance with a win in the javelin, posting a mark of 135' 7".

"I think that there were a lot of really strong performances at the California meets," Pincus said of both meets at Point Loma. "It is a very tough week training-wise, with practice twice a day, and difficult workouts. The combination of the travel and the hard training makes these meets especially challenging, so I was impressed with the team's distances, heights and times."

On Saturday April 5, the Panthers took to the track and field at Springfield in an entirely different climate, battling a cold and windy afternoon as they went head-to-head with the host Pride. Despite the less-than-optimal conditions at Springfield, several competitors on both the men's and women's side turned in fast times, big throws and stellar jump

marks.

On the women's side, the day brought an impressive 17 victories in 19 contested events. Blackburn continued her season with three victories on the day, running 15.43 for the 100 hurdles and jumping 35' 1.75" in the triple jump and 17'5" in long jump.

"I was really happy with my [personal best mark] in the long jump at Point Loma, but my favorite result was this past weekend's 100m hurdles race," Blackburn said. "The hurdles is my favorite event and that was the first time it felt really natural and fluid this season."

Other victories included Maxwell's performance in the 5,000 meters where she ran a time of 17:52.20 and Lauren Henry's '16 12.92 performance in the 100-meter dash. All in all, the women beat the Pride with a final total of 125-70.

The Panther men were victorious in 11 events, totaling a final score of 100 compared to Springfield's 85. Event winners included McCallum in the pole vault with a mark of 15' 1", veteran Bryan Holtzman '14 in the 100 meters in 11.03, first-year sprint standout Alex Nichols '17 in the 200 meters in 22.84 and Sam Klockenkemper '17 in the steeplechase in 10:18. Jake Wood '15 continued his

dominance in the 400-meter hurdles, crossing the finish line first in a time of 55.91.

"The team performed really well overall at Springfield," Blackburn said. "It was a hard day because of the cold and the wind, but we still managed to compete at a high level."

In the eyes of Head Coach Martin Beatty, one of the highlights from the meet at Springfield was his team's performance in relay events, in which they defeated the host Pride in both races on both the men's and women's side.

"I like the way the team is looking," head coach Martin Beatty said of the start to the season. "Both the men's team and the women's team are strong, and it's exciting to be back outside."

The Panthers return to action on Saturday, April 12 at West Point, where they will match up with strong Division-I and III competition. After a final tuneup the following weekend at the University of Albany, Middlebury will travel to Colby on April 26 for the NESCAC championships, the focal point of the Panthers' regular season.

For those who qualify, the season then includes a slew of championship meets, culminating in the NCAA championships on the final weekend of May.

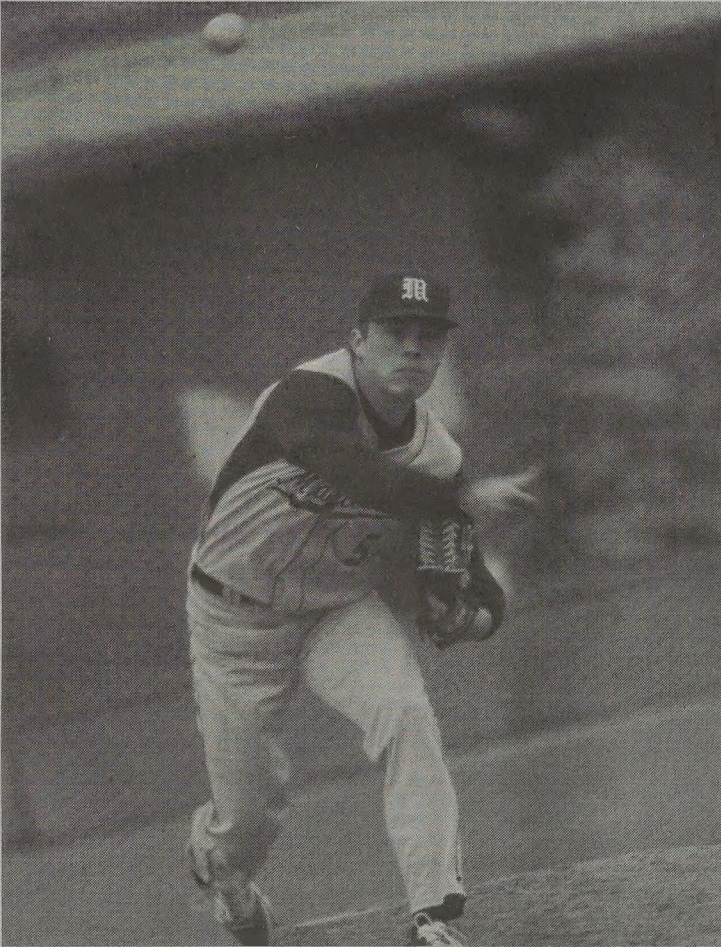
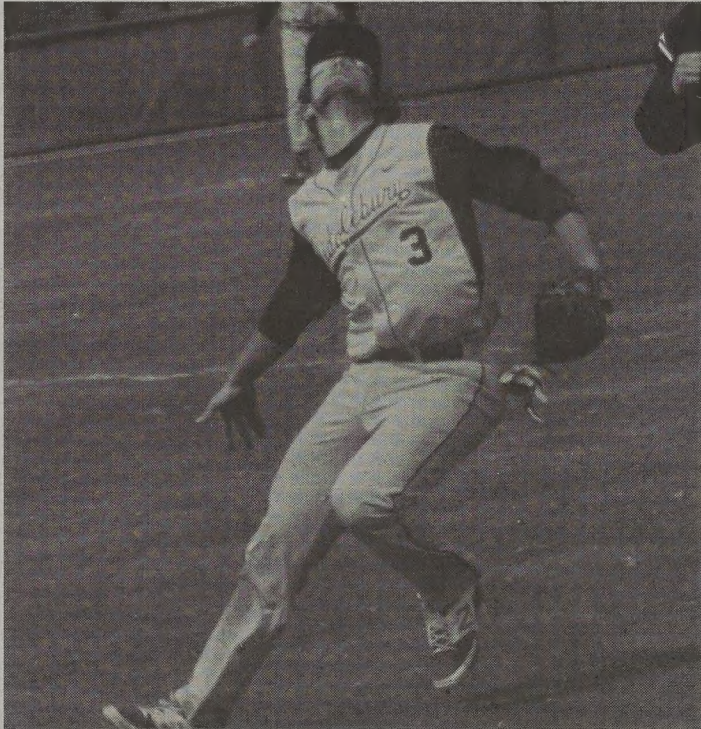
PANTHER SCOREBOARD

WOMEN'S LACROSSE vs. Bates	7-6 W	An impressive second-half comeback for the lady Panthers.
MEN'S LACROSSE vs. Bates	10-7 W	They finally have some momentum going.
SOFTBALL vs. Amherst	2-1 W	First NESCAC series win after a difficult pre-season.
MEN'S TENNIS vs. Gustavus Adolphus	5-4 W	These boys are looking pretty unstoppable right at the moment.
BASEBALL vs. Wesleyan	3-0 L	Something needs to click for this team.

THE MIDDLEBURY GREAT GR8 EIGHT

RANKING	TEAM
	Fritz's Fancies
1	WOMEN'S LACROSSE As long as they keep winning, they'll keep being number one in my book.
2	MEN'S LACROSSE The men are starting to play to the level that we got used to seeing last year.
3	MEN'S TENNIS They are looking like they'll compete in the NESCAC this season.
4	TRACK AND FIELD Will face a sharp test this weekend at Army.
5	WOMEN'S TENNIS This team is really good, but they're yet to come through in a big match.
6	SOFTBALL I'd love to see a series win against Wesleyan.
7	GOLF Haven't played yet, but who cares?
8	BASEBALL Until they start winning, it'll be the eighth slot for the boys.

BASEBALL LOSING STREAK RUNS TO SEVEN WITH SERIES SWEEP AT WESLEYAN



JEFF PATTERSON

Despite the efforts of Joe MacDonald '16, Cooper Byrne '15 and John Luke '16 (clockwise from upper left), the Middlebury baseball team has fallen on hard times, running their current winless streak to seven with a trio of losses on the road at conference foe Wesleyan on April 4 and 5. After the sweep, Middlebury falls to 2-11 on the season. The Panthers look to right the ship this weekend, April 11 and 12, when they travel to Hamilton for a three-game NESCAC series against the host Continentals.

Men's Lacrosse Turns the Corner

By Courtney Mountifield

The Middlebury men's lacrosse team looks apt to turn around their early-season futility, winning four of the past five games against strong competition. This streak started against NESCAC rival Bowdoin on March 22, a game which they won convincingly 10-4.

Though had a setback in their 14-12 loss to Endicott on March 25, the team has since gotten back on track with a three-game winning streak. They squeezed out a tough one against Amherst 8-7 on March 29, had a somewhat routine win on the road at Hamilton 12-6 four days later and defeated Bates 10-7 on Saturday, April 5 to improve their conference record to 4-3 and their overall record to 5-5.

With their win over Bowdoin, Middlebury earned their long-awaited first win against a NESCAC school of the 2014 season.

A scoreless stretch of over 41 minutes from Bowdoin's offense helped Middlebury cross the finish line in front. In addition, nine consecutive goals from Jon Broome '16, Tim Giarrusso '16 and Stephen Seymour '14 helped the Panthers keep the pressure on Bowdoin. Panther goalkeeper and team captain Nate Gaudio '14 made a season-high 19 saves during the game.

Middlebury then battled against 17th-ranked Endicott at Brown University but came up short 12-14. The game came

down to the wire but Endicott was able to score three late goals in the final 2:30 of the game. Broome performed well once again, helping put four points on the board for Middlebury. Jack DeFrino '17 and Cal Williams '15 helped Middlebury keep it close by adding four and five ground balls, respectively.

The intense rivalry between Middlebury and Amherst did not disappoint during the Panthers' 8-7 clutch victory over the 18th-ranked Lord Jeffs. With the win, Middlebury halted Amherst's five-game win streak and also posted their second NESCAC conference victory.

The highlight of the game for Middlebury was the team's strong defensive play, as they limited Amherst to just seven goals, well below the Lord Jeffs' season average of 15 goals. Sophomore Jack Rautiola '16 stood out for the Panthers on the offensive end, scoring three of Middlebury's eight goals on the afternoon.

With the Panthers back in action four days later, a 12-6 win over Hamilton in a midweek contest gave Middlebury a third consecutive NESCAC win.

Six consecutive goals in the second half helped Middlebury put away the competition. Jack Cleary '16 led the Panthers with three goals and fellow sophomore Broome contributed another two. Seymour also added two goals to pace the Panthers over Hamilton.

In their fourth successive NESCAC victory, the Panthers defeated Bates 10-7. Rautiola helped the Panthers with three goals and Cleary scored two. Rautiola's hat-trick during the fourth quarter gave his team a gap that the Bobcats could not overcome.

Middlebury held a 40-37 advantage in shots over Bates for the game. The Panthers also picked up four more ground balls and committed fewer turnovers in order to maintain consistent pressure on the offensive end throughout the afternoon.

Four games remain in the Panthers' regular season, including home matchups against Skidmore on April 19 and against Williams on April 23. The men hope to keep their win streak alive and carry their positive momentum into the NESCAC tournament, which kicks off at the end of April.

Next up for Middlebury is a road matchup against Trinity on Saturday, April 12. A win over the Bantams would set up the Panthers nicely for a potential home game in the conference quarterfinals.



Joey Zerkowitz '17 looks downfield in the Panthers' 10-7 win over Bates on April 5.

Men's Tennis Climbs to 9-2, Williams Tops Women

CONTINUED FROM 24

disappointing for the Panthers, Morgan believes it motivated them as well.

"They're fired up and ready to see them again," Morgan said.

The team continues their season on April 11 with a game against Emory at noon.

The Middlebury men's tennis team, meanwhile, proved victorious in their

first home game after a 6-2 record in its round of spring break games in Georgia. The 10th-ranked Panthers started off their spring break trip strong on March 23 and 24 with a trio of wins against Sewanee (7-2), Oglethorpe University (9-0) and Shorter University (7-2). Key wins by doubles team Alex Johnston '14 and Andrew Lebovitz '14 and singles players Ari Smolyar '16, Allen Jackson '16, and

Zach Bruchmiller '14 contributed to all three wins.

The team's first loss came in their face-off against NALA powerhouse Georgia Gwinnett on March 25, losing 7-2. The 24th-ranked doubles team of Johnston and Lebovitz played an exciting match to garner one of two points, while Smolyar defeated Grizzly Hernan Hatem in straight sets to grab the second point.

The men recovered from the loss with no trouble, grabbing a pair of wins against Georgia Perimeter and ninth-ranked Kenyon on March 26 and 28.

The Panthers continued the trip with a much-anticipated game against Emory. Johnston and Lebovitz scored one point in doubles for the Panthers, with another coming from an exciting game by doubles team Brantner Jones '14 and Palmer Campbell '16. In singles play, Panthers

Campbell, Jones and Johnston suffered tough losses, while Smolyar and Jackson Frons '16 scored a pair of points to bring the score to 4-5 in favor of Emory.

The Panthers followed the loss with a 7-2 win over North Carolina Wesleyan on March 29, ending the spring break trip on a positive note.

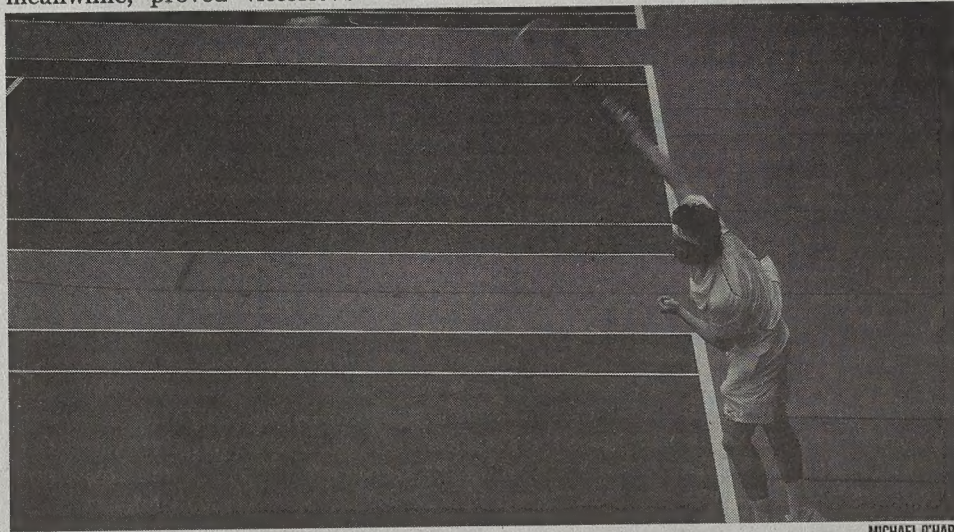
They then returned to Middlebury to face 18th-ranked Gustavus Adolphus on Friday, April 4. The Panthers were unfazed returning to indoor play, proving victorious over the Gusties 5-4.

MIKE MORGAN
WOMEN'S HEAD COACH

Middlebury started off the game with 2 doubles wins by top-ranked pair Jones and Campbell and duo Smolyar and Peter Heidrich '15. Johnston and Lebovitz fell to their opponents. With wins by Johnston, Jones and Campbell, the Panthers clinched a tough win to bring their record to 9-2.

The Panthers next play at Williams on April 11.

"One of the reason you go out there is to play against some top-10 teams."



MICHAEL O'HARA

The men's tennis team squeaked out a 5-4 win over Gustavus Adolphus on April 4.

EDITORS' PICKS



ALEX MORRIS (32-28, .533)



FRITZ PARKER (32-37, .464)



JOE MACDONALD (27-34, .443)

Over/Under: Ten runs scored for the Softball team against Wesleyan

OVER
In 2nd grade I held the record for most home-runs scored in little-league. So yeah.

OVER
Cool story, Alex.

OVER
Alex, though your vernacular regarding bat and ball sports is suspect, I must agree. It would be "home runs 'hit'".

Will the Boston Bruins remain on top of the NHL Eastern Conference after Sunday?

YES
Um... I have total confidence in my answer... #whatishockey

YES
They're up eight on the Pens. Not even the Bruins could blow this one.

YES
Go B's!

Who will score the lowest for the women's golf team in their season opener at Vassar?

MONICA CHOW '16
It's the Masters this weekend you say? Ain't got nothing on the Middlebury golf team.

JORDAN GLATT '15
After finishing second overall on this course a year ago, I think the junior takes it.

MONICA CHOW '16
I'm just agreeing with Alex on everything because usually she's right and I'm wrong.

Who will win the men's London Marathon?

WILSON KIPSANG
I've eagerly awaiting this event. Wait, I'm the only one? Cool.

WILSON KIPSANG
Though I'll be watching to see what Mo Farah can do in his first marathon.

WILSON KIPSANG
No comment.

Softball Smacks Jeffs in Weekend Road Rout

By Joe MacDonald

The Middlebury softball team began its season in Clermont, Florida over spring break and returned to the northeast with a 6-6 record. After defeating conference rival Amherst in the team's first NESCAC series, the Panthers are second in the NESCAC West standings.

Middlebury split its first doubleheader of the season by losing to Wellesley in the season opener 14-3 and then shutting out SUNY Potsdam 10-0. Jackie Stern '16 and Kelsey Martel '15 each had three hits on the day. Erin Giles '17 (4 IP, 2 H, 2 BB, 3 K) and Neve Stearns '16 (1 IP, 0 H, 0 BB, 3 K) combined for the shutout in the night cap.

Middlebury split again on day two of its trip, topping Concordia (Wisc.) 7-5 in eight innings and losing to Wisconsin-Whitewater in a 3-1 barn burner. In the first game of the twinbill, Concordia knotted the score at 4 in the bottom of the sixth to force extra innings. The Panthers pushed three across in the eighth to secure the win. The second game of the doubleheader was even more exciting. The game remained scoreless through seven innings. Wisc.-Whitewater finally plated a run in the top of the eighth. In accordance with the tie-breaking rule, Alex Scibetta '14 began

the bottom of the eighth on second base, and was singled home by Kimber Sable '14 to tie the ball game. Unfortunately, Middlebury allowed two runs in the ninth and could not score any runs in the bottom half. Stearns pitched eight innings of one-run ball in the contest.

The Panthers rattled off two wins on Monday, March 24 against Lawrence, 11-7, and St. Catherine, 8-1. Sable gathered three hits and three RBIs in the first game, while Sarah Freyre '17 carried the offense with two hits and RBIs in the latter game.

Middlebury continued its winning ways with an easy 14-3 victory over Rochester Institute on Wednesday, March 26. Stern and double-play partner Hye-Jin Kim '17 each gathered three hits in the blowout. Later in the day, the Panthers lost a tight 4-3 battle to Elmhurst despite a two-hit effort from Freyre and four effective innings from Stearns in relief.

On Thursday, March 27, Middlebury bested NESCAC East competitor Colby 4-0. Lizzy Morris '14 and Stearns combined for the shutout, with Morris getting her third win and Stearns her second save of the young season.

The trip ended on a sour note however, as Middlebury dropped their final three

games in Florida. Later in the day on Thursday, Luther College bested the Panthers by a score of 8-1. The following day, Middlebury dropped a pair, starting with a 9-2 loss against Chicago and culminating in a 3-2 defeat at the hands of Lawrence.

After a handful of rainouts, Middlebury traveled to western Massachusetts to battle the Amherst Lord Jeffs in the teams' first conference series of the season. The Panthers claimed the series opener on Friday, April 4 with a 1-0 victory. Morris was dominant, throwing a no-hitter and earning her fourth win of the year. The lefty struck out five and walked one.

"I also had no idea it was going on until the game was over," Morris said of the no-hitter, "I didn't feel any different than I do before any other game physically, but I was aware that winning our first NESCAC game was crucial for our morale."

Middlebury was victorious again in the first game of Saturday's doubleheader by a score of 4-1, as Stearns allowed just one run through four innings and Morris followed up her dazzling performance from the day before with three shutout innings for the save. The Lord Jeffs finally got the best of the Panthers with a 6-1 win

in the nightcap, as Middlebury managed just six hits and committed three errors.

"Winning the series this weekend put us into a great spot in-conference and we're excited," Morris said, "but I think that we're also conscious that we need to continue to work hard in order to meet our potential for this season."

The Panthers continue their NESCAC schedule with a series against Wesleyan at home this weekend.

BY THE NUMB3RS

4	Unanswered goals scored by women's lacrosse in the second half of the Bates game in order to overcome a late deficit and win 7-6.
6	Ranked opponents faced by women's tennis in their first nine games of the season.
11	Events won by the men's track and field team in a dual meet at Springfield.
4	Consecutive conference wins for men's lacrosse, after losing their first two NESCAC games of the season.
0	Minutes of the March Madness final watched by sports editors on Monday night, because we were doing layout.

Middlebury Cyclists Keep The Wheels Turning

By Zack Isaacs and Jake Barker

The Middlebury Cycling Team has quietly become a powerhouse.

After the fall mountain bike season and the winter cyclocross season, it's now time for road racing. The highlight of the winter season came on Jan. 12, when Sam O'Keefe '16.5 rode to second place in the Division II US Collegiate Cyclocross National Championship in Boulder, CO. Now, it is halfway through the two-month spring season, and in that time, nine Middlebury riders have competed in races in Philadelphia and New York. The team has claimed three wins, two second-place finishes, and a fourth-place finish. With only these results, Middlebury is currently ranked eighth among east coast Division-II schools.

Collegiate cycling is unique in that any student from any school on the east coast can compete in races organized by the Eastern Collegiate Cycling Conference (ECCC). That means that first-years from Skidmore might race against 26-year old Yale Medical School students. Road, mountain, cyclocross and track cycling all have their own seasons.

In road racing, men and women race in time trials (against the clock),

criteriums (short course, lots of laps), circuit races (medium course, multiple laps) and road races (long course, few laps). Most of the events vary in distance based on each of the five categories - Intro, D, C, B, and A, in ascending order of the level of competition.

The Intro category is a great way to start bike racing, or even just to get a taste of what the pros do in the Tour de France; each race is preceded by a clinic with a veteran coach who guides new cyclists through the technicalities of racing with other competitors. From there, racers work their way up through the categories by accumulating points from good results in each respective field.

The most elite category, the A category, frequently sees professional and nationally-acclaimed riders. Since cycling is not an NCAA sport, professionally paid athletes are permitted to compete at all collegiate events. At the end of the two-month road season that features events around the northeast, the top men and women racers from the ECCC A category travel to nationals, where they compete against other collegiate teams from across the country.

This year, Middlebury Cycling, one

of the oldest and most productive sports teams at the College, is stacked with a diverse and talented group of racers.

Alex Gimbel '16.5 fell in love with cycling when she got to Middlebury, but she had never considered racing until a couple friends on the team convinced her to give it a shot. In her first intercollegiate cycling weekend on March 15-16, Gimbel decided to race in the women's Intro category. Saturday's circuit race found Gimbel charging off to the front of the pack, with only one rider from Temple University able to stay on her wheel. Gimbel claimed second place, a truly amazing result for her first-ever bike race. But Gimbel wanted to win, and she exacted her revenge during Sunday's criterium, breaking away from the main field on the first lap and winning the race by nearly a minute.

That same weekend, Kai Wiggins '16.5 and Zack Isaacs '15.5 raced in the men's A category. They targeted Sunday's criterium as the race to win. Halfway through the race, a 10-man breakaway split from the main field. Wiggins attacked the breakaway relentlessly, before he and a rider from Northeastern University left the group behind entirely. On the last lap, Wiggins powered away from his companion to take a definitive

victory.

The next weekend on March 22, the team traveled to Bard College for another criterium. Jake Barker '16 and O'Keefe raced in the Men's B field. O'Keefe rode like a lion throughout the race, countering moves and riding at the front of the pack, but with five laps to go, Barker attacked with a rider from Northeastern up the climb on the back half of the course. O'Keefe slipped off the front of the pack to let the others try to chase his teammate down, but their efforts were for naught, and Barker captured another second-place finish for Middlebury Cycling.

Looking forward, the team will be traveling to Dartmouth for L'Enfer du Nord, to the University of Vermont for the Mount Philo Road Race and to the conference championship in Providence, RI in late April.

With Isaacs already qualified, the team is also planning to send a small contingent of members to the U.S. Collegiate Road National Championship in Richmond, VA, in May.

The cycling team is always looking for new members, and anyone interested should send an email to cycling@middlebury.edu, or just flag down someone in spandex.



MATTHEW LASALA

Panther cyclist Sam O'Keefe '16.5 speeds to a second-place overall finish at the Division II U.S. Collegiate Cyclocross National Championship, held on Jan. 12 in Boulder, CO.



Men's lacrosse has much to celebrate. After four straight conference wins, the Panthers look poised for a postseason run.

SEE PAGE 22 FOR FULL COVERAGE.

Women's Lacrosse Rises Through the Ranks; Now 5th

By Gabe Weissmann

After earning a number of key wins against very competitive teams both in the NESCAC and outside the conference, the Middlebury women's lacrosse team has continued to show their talent and potential as the team moves towards the second half of the season, achieving a 9-1 record against a tough slate of opponents.

The Panthers, now ranked fifth in the nation, strung together a series of commanding wins over spring break, defeating Bowdoin 14-6 at home, with Liza Herzog '14 leading the Panthers with five points, followed by Katie Ritter '15, Bridget Instrum '16 and Mary O'Connell '17 each contributing four points.

Herzog was named NESCAC player of the week for her performance against Bowdoin.

Following the Bowdoin game, the Panthers travelled down to West Palm Beach, Fl. where they defeated Rochester Institute of Technology 19-4 for Head Coach Missy Foote's 400th win over the course of a 34-season career with the program. Following their trip to Florida, Middlebury headed north to play fourth-ranked Franklin & Marshall in Lancaster, Penn.

Despite the close proximity of the two teams in rankings, the Panthers dominated the

Diplomats, winning by a score of 14-5. Sophomore Laurel Pascal '16 led the Panthers in their commanding win with five goals on eight shots, supported by a pair of goals and three assists from Ritter.

Middlebury's undefeated record, however, was ended the following game in a 11-10 loss to third-ranked Amherst.

After coming out flat-footed and falling behind 0-5 to the Lord Jeffs within the first 13 minutes of the game, Middlebury slowly clawed their way back by scoring three goals in the last few minutes of the first half, and four

unanswered goals in the second half. After taking a 9-8 lead off of a goal from Megan Griffin '16 six minutes into the second half, Middlebury went goal for goal with Amherst, until Amherst's Elizabeth Ludlow scored with 3:35 left in the game to give her team the conference win.

Despite this loss, Middlebury was able to defeat Hamilton 11-8 with seven straight goals to come back from behind this past Wednesday, April 2.

On Saturday, the Panthers took on the 14th-ranked Bates Bobcats, who had earlier in the season defeated perennial NESCAC powerhouse Trinity.

The Bobcats struck first in the game with two goals from Wally Pierce. Middlebury answered, however, with goals from Alli Sciarretta '16 and O'Connell. Bates then proceeded to go on a three-goal run to bring the score to 5-2 going into the second half.

Middlebury was the first to fire in the second half, with a goal from Pascal with 23 minutes left in the game. Bates answered with a goal from Kalleigh Maguire to put the score at 6-3 in favor of Bates. Middlebury did not relent, and after a goal from Sciarretta with 15 minutes left in the game, proceeded to stage a late-game comeback with three consecutive goals: two from Instrum and one from Catherine Lincoln '16.

"I think the Bates game was a big test for our team," said Lincoln. "We were able to pull together under intense pressure and make some amazing things happen."

Senior captain Alyssa Palomba '14 made several key saves in goal, ending the day with a save percentage of .455 off of five saves. Middlebury was also able to hold off the Bobcats with stellar defense and key ground balls from senior defenders Hannah Deoul '14 and Erin Benotti '14.

The Panthers now sit at 9-1 overall and 6-1 in the NESCAC. They will play Cortland State at home on Thursday, April 10, followed by a matchup with conference foe Trinity at home on Saturday, April 12.

"Moving forward, I think we will benefit from using this same intensity and team work when we face Cortland and Trinity, who are both tough teams," said Lincoln.

"We were able to pull together under intense pressure and make some amazing things happen."

CATHERINE LINCOLN '16
ATTACKER

Tennis Squads Rack Up Wins

By Emma McDonald

After recording a 6-2 record in their spring-break trip to California, the women's tennis team returned to their home court to play sixth-ranked Williams in Nelson Arena on Sunday, April 6, losing 7-2.

The women began their spring break trip on March 22 with a tough loss to Pomona-Pitzer, their lone point coming in singles from a straight sets win by senior Dorrie Paradies '14.

According to Coach Mike Morgan, the Panthers' loss "affected them in a positive way," helping them prepare for the next matches mentally and physically.

The Panthers had to adjust to the time difference as well as playing on outdoor courts. They improved their record in the next match with an 8-1 win on March 23 against UC-Santa Cruz. The Panthers won all six singles matches in straight sets and two out of three doubles matches to win the game handily.

They continued the trip with a tough loss March 25 against fifth-ranked Claremont-Mudd-Scripps. The Panthers garnered two of three doubles points with wins by duos Ria Gerger '16 / Kaysee Orozco '17, and Lauren Amos '16 / Margot Marchese '16. In singles play, Alexandra Fields '17 and Sadie Shackelford '16 scored points for the Panthers, but it wasn't enough to win the match. The Panthers fell 4-5 to CMS to bring their record to 4-2.

Morgan believes that this was their most challenging game of the series.

"Claremont is certainly a strong team and we needed to play well in that one," Morgan said.

Despite the loss, Morgan thinks that this game was just what the team was looking for in a schedule filled with strong opponents.

"One of the reasons you go out there is to play against some of the top ten teams," he said.

The Panthers finished the trip strong on March 27 and 28 with 8-1 wins over Westmont and 12th-ranked University of Chicago, ending the trip with a 6-2 record.

In addition to their games on the trip, the Panthers had the opportunity to meet with a sports psychologist and members of the Olympic volleyball team, an experience Coach Morgan found particularly valuable because the team was able to discuss "some of the things we've talked about all year with someone who had a little bit of an outside perspective."

The Panthers continued their season on Sunday, April 6 with a match against NESCAC rival, sixth-ranked Williams. The Panthers fell to the Ephs 2-7, with their points coming from number-two singles win by Fields and a hard-fought win by doubles team Amos and Marchese.

Though the loss was

SEE MEN'S, PAGE 22

INSIDE
SPORTS



SOFTBALL NOTCHES
SERIES WIN OVER
AMHERST
PAGE 23



TRACK EMERGES
FROM SPRINGFIELD
MEET VICTORIOUS
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